Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
XV

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CHAPTER 68

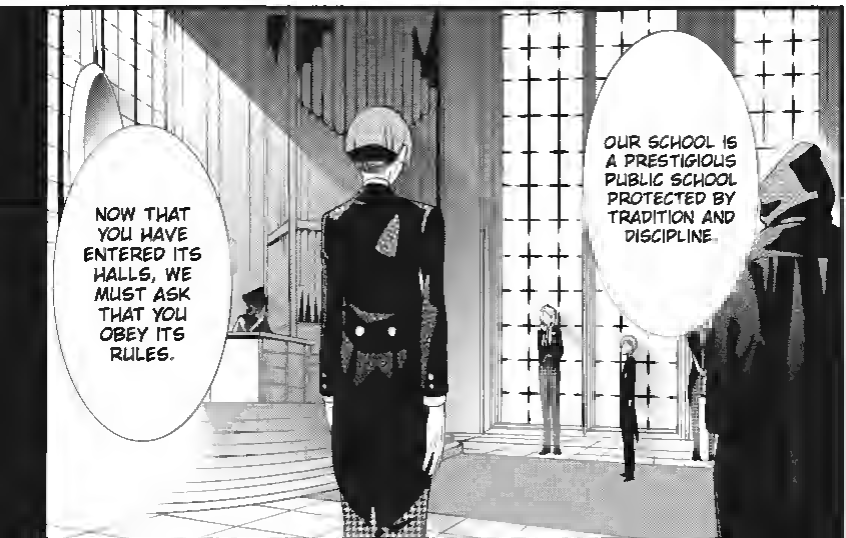
In the morning : The Butler, Tidying Up

WESTON COLLEGE, A DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDED BY THE SONS OF ARISTOCRATS FROM ALL OVER GREAT BRITAIN.
THE ISSUE IS THIS— BEGINNING WITH DERRICK ARDEN, SON OF DUKE CLEMENS, COUSIN TO HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN...
...A NUMBER OF STUDENTS HAVE FAILED TO RETURN HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES FOR QUITE SOME TIME.
AND IT IS INTO THIS HOUSE OF LEARNING WHERE TRADITION AND DISCIPLINE REIGN...
...THAT I'VE STOLEN IN ORDER TO INVESTIGATE A CERTAIN MATTER.

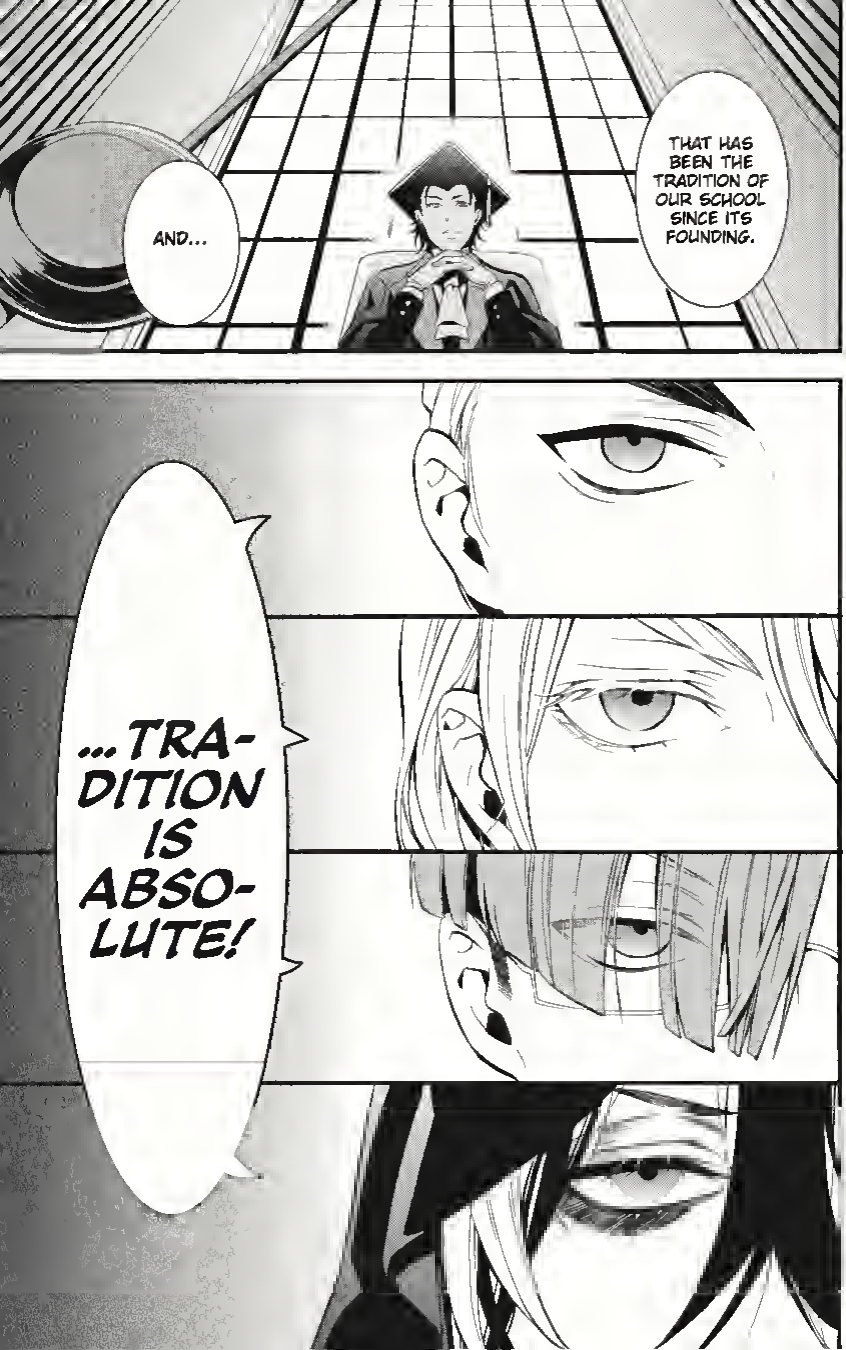
WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON BEHIND ITS GUARDED WALLS?
WESTON COLLEGE IS AN INSULAR INSTITUTION WITH WHICH EVEN THE GOVERNMENT CAN'T INTERFERE.
"ONLY THE FOUR PREFECTS ARE ALLOWED TO CROSS THE LAWN"... WAS HOW THE RULE WENT, DIDN'T IT?
OH, DARN!

Headmaster's Office
GH
GHH (CREEEAK)

IT'S BEEN A WHOLE DAY SINCE YOU MOVED INTO YOUR HOUSE... ARE YOU GETTING SITUATED, PHANTOMHIVE?
IF YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU'RE FITTING INTO BLUE HOUSE, COME TO RED HOUSE ANYTIME.
SOMEONE OF YOUR STATUS SHALL ALWAYS BE WELCOME.
THE HEADMASTER ALONE RETAINS THE RIGHT TO DECIDE THE HOUSE TO WHICH A STUDENT IS ASSIGNED.
THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.
...MM, WELL, ALL THE HOUSES ARE THE SAME, IF YOU ASK ME.


OUR SCHOOL IS A PRESTIGIOUS PUBLIC SCHOOL PROTECTED BY TRADITION AND DISCIPLINE.
NOW THAT YOU HAVE ENTERED ITS HALLS, WE MUST ASK THAT YOU OBEY ITS RULES.

PATAN (SHUT)
TYPICALLY, THE HEADMASTER WOULD BE THE ONE IMPARTING HIS WISDOM TO YOU HERE, BUT AS HE IS TERRIBLY BUSY...
...I SHALL ACT AS HIS SUBSTITUTE.
I AM JOHANN AGARES, VICE HEADMASTER.
A RATHER DISAGREEABLE ROLE, HAVING ALL MANNER OF TIRESOME MATTERS FORCED UPON US.
THE HEAD-MASTER HAS ENTRUSTED US PREFECTS WITH COMPLETE AUTONOMY HEREIN
AND HERE AT SCHOOL, HIS WORD IS ABSOLUTE.
IN THIS SCHOOL THE FIRST AND LAST WORD LIES WITH THE HEAD-MASTER


AND...
THAT HAS BEEN THE TRADITION OF OUR SCHOOL SINCE ITS FOUNDING.
...TRA-DITION IS ABSO-LUTE!

DO YOU VOW TO OBEY THE CODE OF OUR SCHOOL AND TO OBSERVE OUR TRADITIONS AND DISCIPLINE?
I DO.
GI (THUD)
!?
DOSHA (CRASH)
BIKU (JUMP)
KA (CLICK)
IN THAT CASE, PLEASE SIGN HERE.
ZURU (SLIP)

FORGIVE ME.
FORGIVE ME.
FORGIVE ME.
MISTER AGARES!!?
DEDEEEN (COLLAPSE)
SFX: DOKU (SPURT) DOKU
WELCOME TO WESTON COLLEGE, PHANTOMHIVE.
WE EMBRACE YOUR PRESENCE AMONG US.
YOUR SIGNATURE HERE, PLEASE.
KYU (SQUEAK)
KYU (GRIP)

GARAAAN
CLANNG
GARAAAN
MAY YOU ENJOY YOUR SCHOOL LIFE HERE...

DUE TO HIS EXCEEDINGLY FULL SCHEDULE, THE HEADMASTER DOES NOT HAVE TIME TO EXCHANGE PLEASANTRIES WITH ORDINARY PUPILS.
WHEN MIGHT I BE ABLE TO EXCHANGE GREETINGS WITH THE HEAD-MASTER?
EXCUSE ME!
ONLY WE PREFECTS MAY SEE HIM.
SO HE'S PRACTICALLY THE ABSOLUTE MONARCH OF THIS SCHOOL ...?
ORDINARY STUDENTS AREN'T ALLOWED TO MEET WITH THE HEADMASTER?

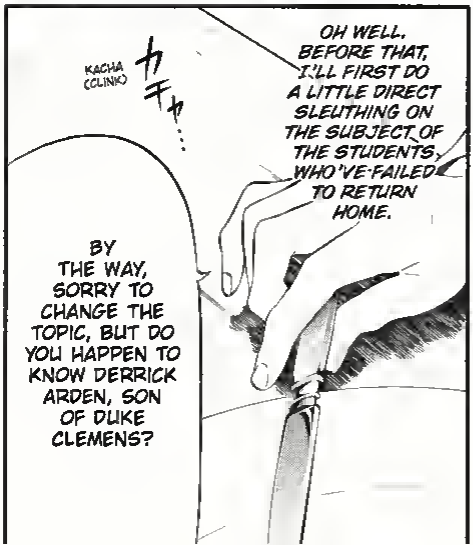
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE...
...PLACES WHERE PRIMARILY BOYS THIRTEEN TO EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO THEIR STUDIES WHILE LIVING TOGETHER IN DORMITORIES.
GARAAAN (CLANNNG)
GARAAAN
AND SO BEGINS ANOTHER DAY AT THIS PUBLIC SCHOOL.
THE ENTIRETY OF THE STUDENTS' LIVES ARE GOVERNED BY THE SOUND OF BELLS.

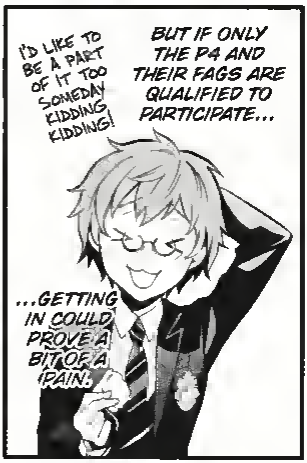
6:30 A.M.
Turn Out
7:00 A.M.
Early Morning Tea
7:30 A.M.
Commencement of Studies
9:00 A.M.
Breakfast

"FWAG"?
AS IN CLEANING HIS ROOM AND IRONING HIS UNIFORM.
AND LATER, PREPARING HIS HOT-WATER BOTTLE IN THE EVENING.
IT'S A TRADITION PECULIAR TO WESTON COLLEGE, WHERE A LOWER BOY IS ASSIGNED TO ATTEND TO A PARTICULAR SENIOR.
AFTER BREAKFAST COMES "FAG TIME."
FAG!
ATTEND TO?
SO BASICALLY YOU'RE TO PLAY HIS BUTLER...
ANOTHER IRRITATING TRADITION...

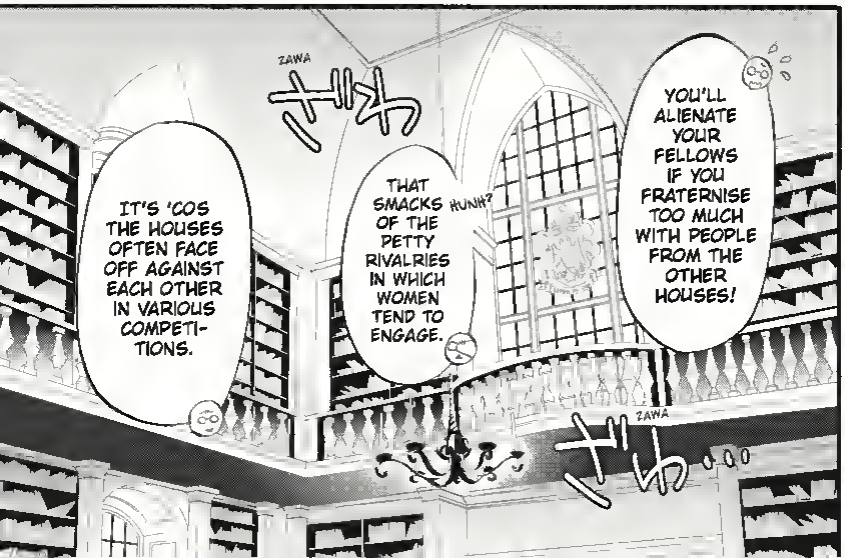
CLAYTON...
THAT FELLOW ...?
DO PREFECTS HAVE FAGS AS WELL?
OF COURSE!
CLAYTON IS FAG TO BLUEWER, THE PREFECT OF BLUE HOUSE.
FAGS ARE DIFFERENT FROM BUTLERS IN THAT A SENIOR MAY TAKE CARE OF HIS FAG AS WELL.
IT'S SORT OF LIKE A BROTHERLY RELATIONSHIP LIMITED TO THE SCHOOL, YOU MIGHT SAY?
BROTHERS, HMM...?
OH!
ALSO, A PREFECT'S FAG IS A BIT SPECIAL COMPARED TO THE REST!
THEY GET TO WEAR THEIR HOUSE FLOWER ON THEIR LAPEL LIKE THE P4, AND...
...CROSS THE LAWN WITH PRIOR PERMISSION, AND...
... ALSO ...

A MIDNIGHT TEA PARTY HOSTED BY THE HEADMASTER...
NOW THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE ELUSIVE HEADMASTER IF EVER I HEARD ONE.
...I HEAR THEY GET TO TAKE PART IN THE "MIDNIGHT TEA PARTY," WHICH IS HOSTED BY THE HEADMASTER!
ALONG WITH THE P4!


KACHA (CLINK)
カチャ…
OH WELL, BEFORE THAT, I'LL FIRST DO A LITTLE DIRECT SLEUTHING ON THE SUBJECT OF THE STUDENTS WHO'VE FAILED TO RETURN HOME.
BY THE WAY, SORRY TO CHANGE THE TOPIC, BUT DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW DERRICK ARDEN, SON OF DUKE CLEMENS?


BUT IF ONLY THE P4 AND THEIR FAGS ARE QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE...
I'D LIKE TO BE A PART OF IT TOO SOMEDAY KIDDING KIDDING!
...GETTING IN COULD PROVE A BIT OF A PAIN.

-PSST-
-PSST-
-PSST-
-PSST-
-PSST-
-PSST-
I BELIEVE HE'S A STUDENT OF SCARLET FOX HOUSE...
ZAWA (MURMUR)
SFX: HISO (PSST) HISO HISO HISO
PH—
PHANTOM-HIVE!!
EYE
EYE
HM?

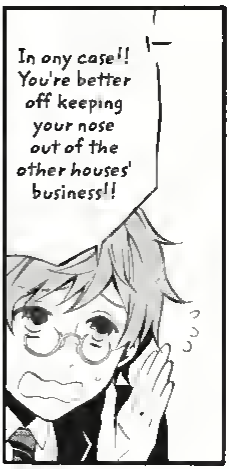

ZAWA
ざわ
IT'S 'COS THE HOUSES OFTEN FACE OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER IN VARIOUS COMPETI-TIONS.
THAT SMACKS OF THE PETTY RIVALRIES IN WHICH WOMEN TEND TO ENGAGE.
KUNH?
YOU'LL ALIENATE YOUR FELLOWS IF YOU FRATERNISE TOO MUCH WITH PEOPLE FROM THE OTHER HOUSES!
ZAWA
ざわ...

...IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, ARDEN WAS TO HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM RED HOUSE TO PURPLE HOUSE AS A SPECIAL CASE, BUT...
ANYWAY...

I don't know the details, but rumour has it that it was under the Headmaster's orders.
HISO (psst)
HISO

TRANS-FERRED?

Especially Violet Wolf House.
!?


In any case!! You're better off keeping your nose out of the other houses' business!!

RIGHT!
GATA (CLACK)
MC-MILLAN! IT'S FAG TIME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY—
PATATA (PATTER)
WHAT WAS WITH THAT POSE..?
PEKA (BEAM)
THIS IS MY UPPER-CLASS-MAN!
I'LL BE SEEING YOU, PHANTOM-HIVE!
BIKUUU (JUMP)
PHANTOMHIVE!!
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING MORE TO IT.
— THAT ASIDE, HE SAID DERRICK'S HOUSE ASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN CHANGED?

EH...!? BY DINING HALL, YOU MEAN...
YOU'RE TO CLEAN THE DINING HALL UNTIL YOU'RE ASSIGNED TO A SENIOR.
YES, CLAYTON?
...EVERY-THING...
...HERE?
QUITE!
GUCCHAAA (MESSY)
BATAN (SLAM)
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU CUTTING ANY CORNERS NOW!
PI (POINT)

SUTO CLAN?
.....
SEBASTIAN.
RIGHT HERE.
ooo

VERY GOOD, SIR.
I'LL GO OVER THERE DIRECTLY, SO YOU TIDY UP HERE.
HE SHOULD BE AT HIS HOUSE NOW.
WHEN I WAS CHECKING THE STUDENT ROLL, HIS NAME WAS INDEED ON THE LIST OF VIOLET WOLF RESIDENTS.
IT SEEMS THAT DERRICK HAS BEEN TRANS-FERRED TO ANOTHER HOUSE...
ごっちゃ
GOCCHAAA (MESSY)
NOW THEN!
PAN (CLAP)
TIME TO GET TO WORK!
BASA (FLAP)

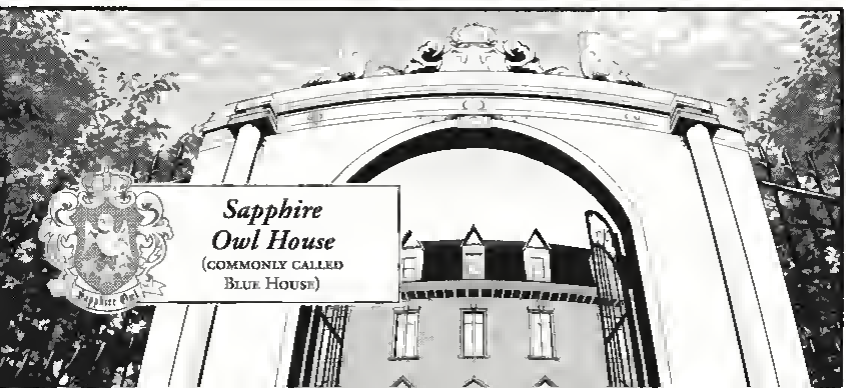
Violet Wolf
Violet Wolf House
(commonly called
Purple House)
GYAA (CAW!)
GYAA
GYAA
GYAA
WHAT A SINGULAR EXTERIOR...
.....
?
HISO (WHISPER)
HISO
HISO
HISO
GYAA
GYAA
IT BEFITS A HOUSE OF "ECCENTRICS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE ARTS," I DARESAY...

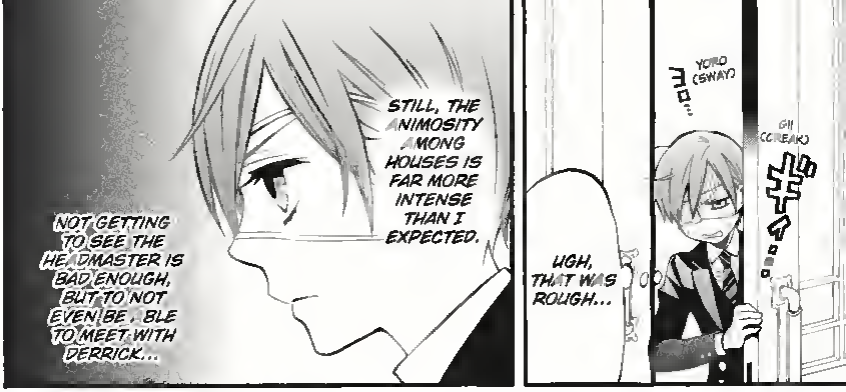
!?
ZA (SWARM)
HEY NOW! WHAT'S A SWOT FROM BOOKWORM HOUSE WANT WITH PURPLE HOUSE?
KO (CLICK)
WH-WHEN DID THEY CREEP UP ON ME!?
THAT CREST BELONGS TO BLUE HOUSE
OUTSIDER!
ZAWA
ZAWA (MURMUR)

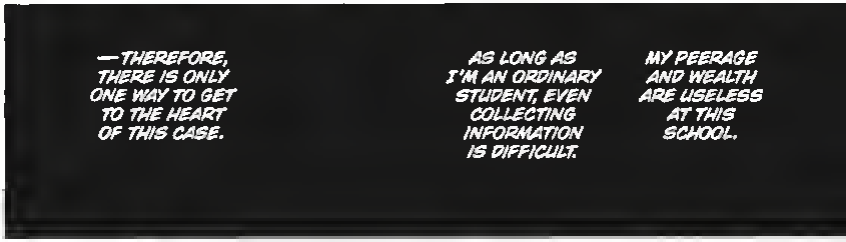
PEOPLE WHO CAN DO NOWT BUT STUDY CAN'T JUST COME STROLLING INTO VIOLET WOLF HOUSE AS THEY PLEASE, Y'KNOW?
HYU (WHIZ)
GO AWAY!
ざわ…
ZAWA
GET LOST!
YES... GO AWAY...!
GO AWAY!
FELLOWS FROM THE OTHER HOUSES SHOULD JUST GO AWAY!
Go Away!
ざわ…
ZAWA
GET AWAY FROM PURPLE HOUSE!!
BYU (FLING)
GO AWAY!
KON (KONK)
OW!

MAKE SURE YOU BRING A FAT DICTIONARY OR SOMETHING TO PROTECT YOUR HEAD NEXT TIME, BOOKWORM!
HYAH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
GO AWAY!!
UWAH!?
UGH!
GO AWAY!
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO ROWDY?
WHAT IS THEIR PROBLEM !!?
HYAH HA HA HA HA
EEEE HEE HEE!
GII HEE HEE HEE!
GERA (CACKLE) GERA

A KID FROM BOOK-WORM HOUSE WAS JUST HERE.
NN?
ピク
PIKU (TWITCH)
THE NEW BOY, HM...?
ZA (STE.)
OH, VIOLET.


Sapphire Owl House
(COMMONLY CALLED BLUE HOUSE)


NOT GETTING TO SEE THE HEADMASTER IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT TO NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO MEET WITH DERRICK...
STILL, THE ANIMOSITY AMONG HOUSES IS FAR MORE INTENSE THAN I EXPECTED.
UGH, THAT WAS ROUGH...
YOHO (SWAY)
GII (CREAK)


—THEREFORE, THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO GET TO THE HEART OF THIS CASE.
AS LONG AS I'M AN ORDINARY STUDENT, EVEN COLLECTING INFORMATION IS DIFFICULT.
MY PEERAGE AND WEALTH ARE USELESS AT THIS SCHOOL.

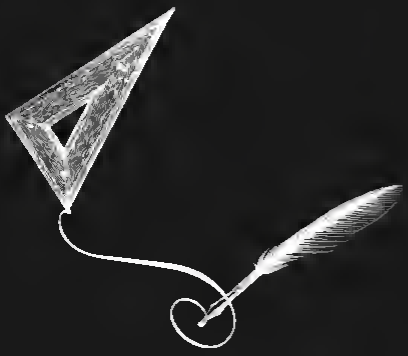
BUT HOW?
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CURRY FAVOUR WITH THE P4, "THE PRIVILEGED OF THE SCHOOL"!!

ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA
?
!!
PHANTOMHIVE!!
YES!?
GA (GRAB)
DARN! DID HE FIND OUT I SKIPPED OUT ON CLEANING DUTY!?
ON PRINCIPLE, I DON'T MAKE A HABIT OF COMPLI-MENTING PEOPLE LIGHTLY.
HOW-EVER!
TODAY, I FEEL YOU ARE DESERVING OF MY PRAISE!
PI (JAB)
HUNH?

SHARAAAN (SPARKLE)
!!
OUR HOUSE'S OLD... RATHER, TRADITION-RESPLENDENT DINING HALL IS BEYOND RECOGNI-TION!!
WELL DONE, PHANTOM-HIVE!
OH NO, YOU'RE TOO KIND...
KA (CLICK)
TOO
AH!
WHYYYY, THAT BLASTED SEBASTIAN! HE DID HIS JOB TOO WELL!!

MISTER MICHAE-LIS!
WHAT IS IT?
PLEASE FEAST YOUR EYES UPON THIS DINING HALL!
PHAN-TOMHIVE PUT IT IN ORDER!
MY, MY...
NICE WORK, PHAN-TOM-HIVE.
NIKO (SMILE)
YOU TOO, SIR.
YOU WENT TOO FAR
NO, WAIT.
THIS FELLOW WAS THE BLUE HOUSE PREFECT BLUEWER'S FAG, IF I RECALL...
I CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION.
IN ORDER TO GET CLOSER TO THE PREFECTS...
...I'LL START BY MAKING HIS ACQUAINTANCE FIRST!!

I'M VERY GLAD TO HEAR THAT MY WORK PLEASES YOU SO!!
YOU SEE, I'M ACTUALLY QUITE GOOD AT HOUSEKEEPING AND SUCH.
PEKA (BEAM)
SO PLEASE, CLAYTON, CONSIDER ME AT YOUR SERVICE...
...WHEN-EVER YOU NEED AAANY-THING DONE!



Black Butler

A "PUBLIC SCHOOL"— AN INSTITUTION THAT SETS GREAT STORE BY TRADITION AND DISCIPLINE
"FAGS"— LOWER BOYS WHO ATTEND TO UPPERCLASSMEN IN BROTHERLY RELATIONSHIPS LIMITED TO THE SCHOOL.
THE "HEADMASTER"— A RECLUSE AND A FIGURE OF ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY.
"PREFECTS"— FOUR INDIVIDUALS WHO REIGN OVER THE FOUR STUDENT HOUSES, WHICH ARE CONSTANTLY AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS.
TO GAIN MY FREEDOM IN THIS MINIATURE GARDEN, BOUND BY PECULIAR RULES, I WILL MAKE WHATEVER CRUEL DECISION NECESSARY.

CHAPTER 69

At noon : The Butler, In Disguise

Black Butler

A HOUSEMASTER IS A MASTER WHO LIVES IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL DORMITORY AND PROVIDES THE STUDENTS OF THE HOUSE WITH GUIDANCE.
HOWEVER, HOUSE-MASTERS ARE THE ONLY TEACHING STAFF AMONG THEM.
STARTING WITH THE HOUSE-MASTERS, THE FOUR HOUSES OF WESTON COLLEGE HAVE A HANDFUL OF EMPLOY-EES—
HOUSE-MOTHERS, WHO MANAGE THE RUNNING OF THE HOUSES; COOKS, WHO PREPARE THE MEALS; AND FOOTMEN, WHO SERVE AT TABLE.

NIGHT
AT NIGHT, THEY RETURN TO THEIR HOUSES ALONG WITH THE STUDENTS, AND IN THEIR FREE TIME, THEY REVIEW THE WORK OF THOSE WHO WISH TO STUDY.
IN THE MORNING, HOUSEMASTERS GO TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING ALONG WITH THE STUDENTS AND TEACH CLASSES ON THE SUBJECTS OF WHICH THEY ARE IN CHARGE.
DAY
AND YET, DESPITE THAT...
...A HOUSEMASTER IS A DEMANDING PROFESSION, IN WHICH ONE MUST DEVOTE THE BETTER PART OF ONE'S DAY TO ONE'S STUDENTS.
IN SHORT...

はぁ
HAAA (SIIIGH)
...WHEN IT COMES TO THE YOUNG MASTER...
A BUTTON'S COME UNDONE FROM CLAYTON'S JACKET. SEW IT BACK ON!
ORGANISE CLAYTON'S BOOKSHELVES!
MAKE GOLDEN SYRUP SPONGE PUDDING FOR CLAYTON'S AFTERNOON SNACK TODAY!
THAT GOES FOR ME TOO!
どろ〜ん...
DOROOON (FILTHY)
GACHA (KACHAK)
ガチャ
HE ACCEPTS ALL MANNER OF ERRANDS TOO READILY BECAUSE HE THINKS HE CAN HAVE ME TAKE CARE OF THEM...

I TOO!
HISA (WHAP)
AM!
SHA (SHAK)
BUSY!!
ZA (SWSH)
BASHI (ORGANISED)
PISHI (PROPER)
SHARAAAN (SPARKLE)

NOW, I MUST BE OFF TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING TO TEACH THE FIRST-FORMERS.
AH, SO BUSY, SO BUSY
I EXPECT THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH ...?
PISHI
PAN (CLAYTON)
PAN
PHANTOM-HIVE, YOU HAVE SO MANY ERRANDS TO RUN FOR CLAYTON. IT MUST BE HARD.
I USE UP ALL MY FAG TIME JUST SEWING A SINGLE BUTTON BACK ON FOR MY SENIOR.
ZAWA (CHATTER)
ZAWA

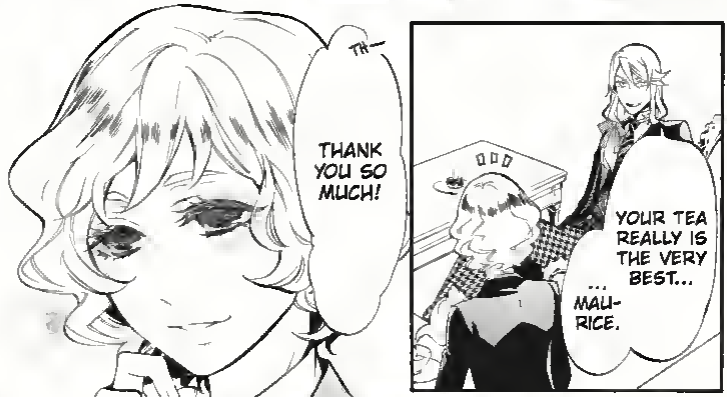
THERE'S A WAY TO GET THROUGH ERRANDS QUICKLY. A TRICK, YOU MIGHT CALL IT.
SHIRAAA (CHILL)
EEEH!?
LET ME IN ON IT NEXT TIME!
GACHA (KACHAK)
ガチャ
WELL, IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
CLAYTON DOESN'T HAVE A FAG OF HIS OWN YET, SO THAT'S WHY HE KEEPS ORDERING YOU TO DO SO MUCH.
DO THIS!
DO THAT!

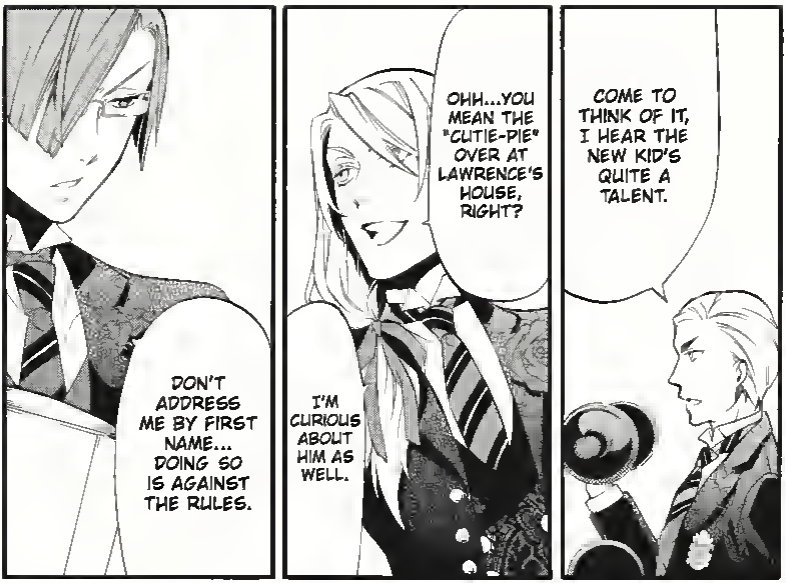
ざわ
ZAWA (CHATTER)
I JUST HAPPENED TO COME PREPARED FOR CLASS.
YOU ACED THE QUIZZES TOO, RIGHT?
YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING ELSE.
ZAWA
ざわ

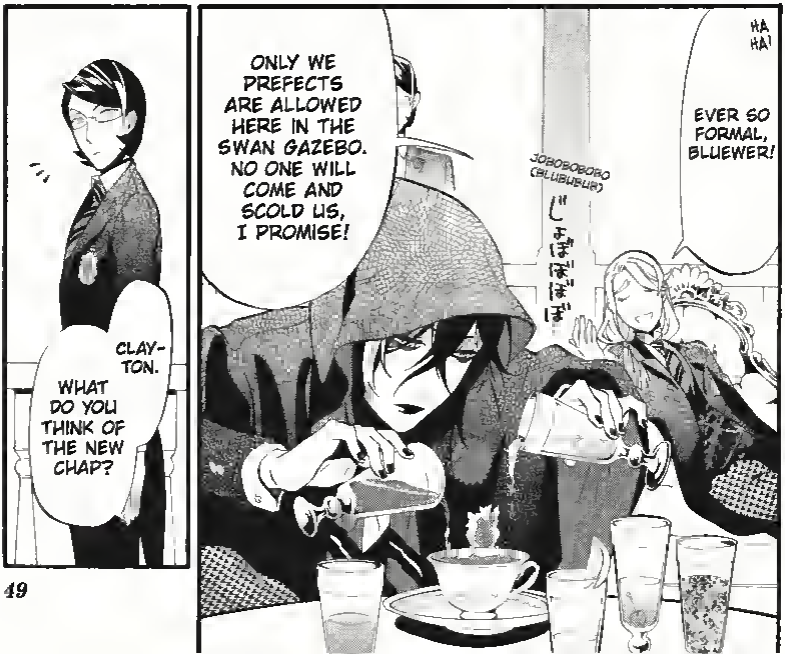
SOMEONE MIGHT ASK YOU BEFORE LONG.
I HEAR ALL THE SENIORS WHO HAVE YET TO SELECT A FAG ARE TALKING ABOUT WHO'LL PICK YOU.

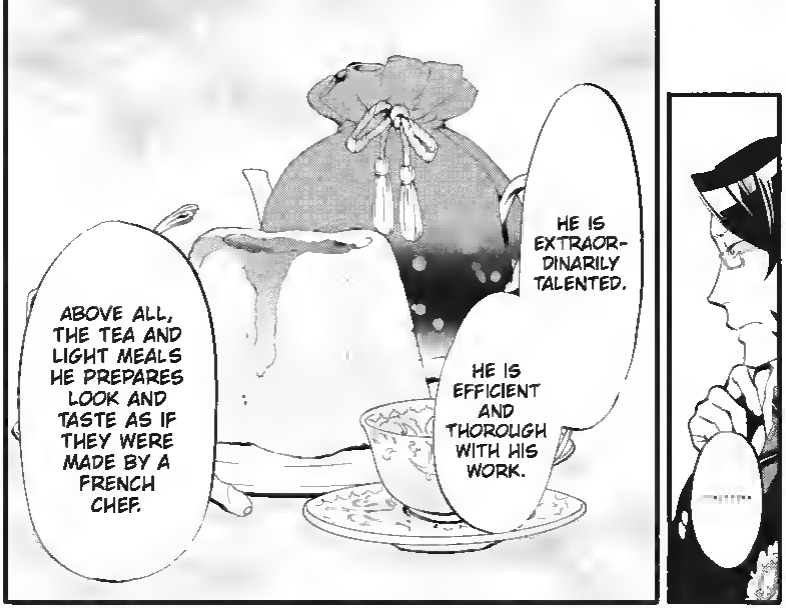
HMPH!
IT BETTER HAPPEN, OR ELSE!
HEH HEH.
...IF THAT'S SO, IT WOULD BE AN HONOUR.
KOSO (WHISPER)
Personally, I think it'll be Clayton!
EVERY-ONE, I'M STARTING CLASS NOW——
PAIN
PAIN (CLAP)
I WILL BECOME CLAYTON'S FAG, NO MATTER WHAT!!
Swan Gazebo

REDMOND, WOULD YOU CARE FOR ANOTHER CUP OF TEA?
YES, IF YOU WOULD.


YOUR TEA REALLY IS THE VERY BEST... ...MAU-RICE.
TH—
THANK YOU SO MUCH!

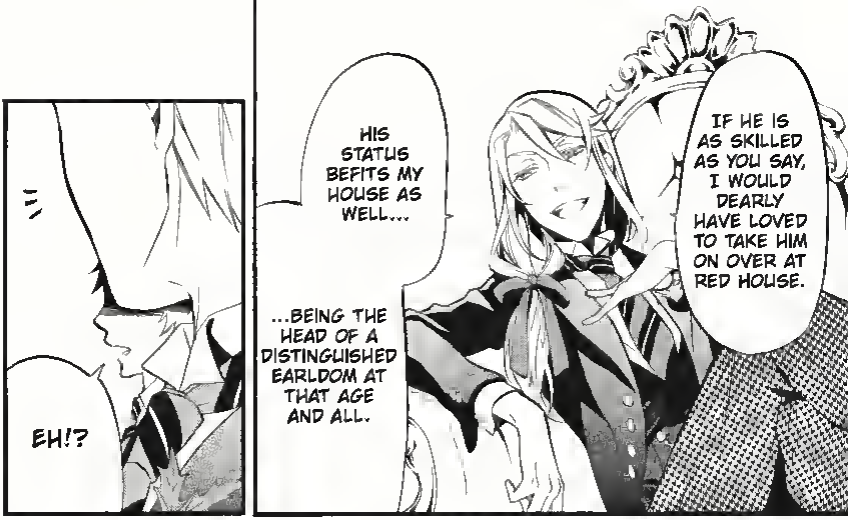

DON'T ADDRESS ME BY FIRST NAME... DOING SO IS AGAINST THE RULES.
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT HIM AS WELL.
OHH...YOU MEAN THE "CUTIE-PIE" OVER AT LAWRENCE'S HOUSE, RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HEAR THE NEW KID'S QUITE A TALENT.


CLAY-TON.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW CHAP?
ONLY WE PREFECTS ARE ALLOWED HERE IN THE SWAN GAZEBO. NO ONE WILL COME AND SCOLD US, I PROMISE!
JOBOBOBORO (BLUBUBUB)
しょぼぼぼぼ
EVER SO FORMAL, BLUEWER!
HA HA!


HE IS EXTRAORDINARILY TALENTED.
HE IS EFFICIENT AND THOROUGH WITH HIS WORK.
ABOVE ALL, THE TEA AND LIGHT MEALS HE PREPARES LOOK AND TASTE AS IF THEY WERE MADE BY A FRENCH CHEF.
.....

SO THAT MAKES HIM AN EARL WHO'S LIKE A BUTLER.
HMMM
HE'S A STRANGE ONE...
WASN'T HE S'POSED TO BE AN EARL?
HOW CAN HE DO ALL THAT?
WELL, HE SAID IT WAS A HOBBY OF HIS...

I WONDER IF HE CAME TO VISIT MY HOUSE BECAUSE HE'S AN ECCENTRIC HIMSELF...
NOSO (MUMBLE)
WHAT?
HE CAME TO PURPLE HOUSE DURING "FAG TIME" EARLIER.
AND ALL ALONE TOO...
BUKU
BUKU (CRUNCH)
PERHAPS YOU MISTOOK SOMEONE ELSE FOR HIM?
THE WORKLOAD I GAVE HIM HARDLY LEFT TIME FOR A LEISURELY STROLL, I ASSURE YOU.
HE WAS WEARING THAT EYE PATCH OF HIS, SO I'M SURE IT WAS HIM...
WHAT WAS HE DOING AT VIOLET WOLF HOUSE ...?

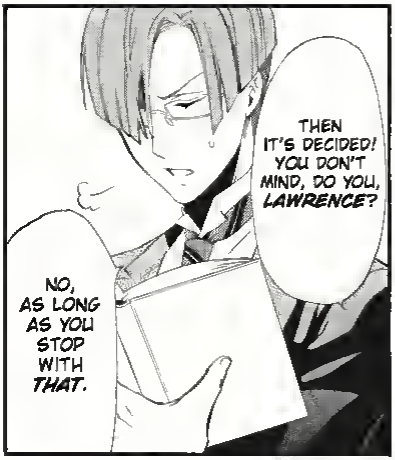

IF HE IS AS SKILLED AS YOU SAY, I WOULD DEARLY HAVE LOVED TO TAKE HIM ON OVER AT RED HOUSE.
HIS STATUS BEFITS MY HOUSE AS WELL...
...BEING THE HEAD OF A DISTINGUISHED EARLDOM AT THAT AGE AND ALL.
EH!?

WHAT IS IT?
GREENHILL, MAY I SPEAK?
(KUWA (ROAR)
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!! TRY IT AGAIN!!
YES, SIR !!!
WILL YOU GRANT ME LEAVE TO SPEAK, SIR!!?
DO KEEP IT DOWN...
NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!!!

BISHI (WHIP)
I GIVE EDWARD MIDFORD PERMISSION TO SPEAK!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR!!
YES.
HE'S MY COUSIN AND LIZZIE'S—RATHER...
...MY LITTLE SISTER'S FIANCÉ.
THE NAME OF THIS NEW BOY YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT...
IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE CIEL PHANTOMHIVE BY ANY CHANCE, WOULD IT?
OH? DO YOU KNOW HIM?
WELL, I'LL BE. I DIDN'T KNOW HE'D ENROLLED AT THIS SCHOOL...
COME ON...
WELL-TO-DO YOUNG MEN FROM ALL OVER ENGLAND END UP HERE. 'SNOTHING TO BE AWED BY.
YOU DIDN'T EVEN GET A LETTER FROM HIM? MAYBE HE HATES YOU?

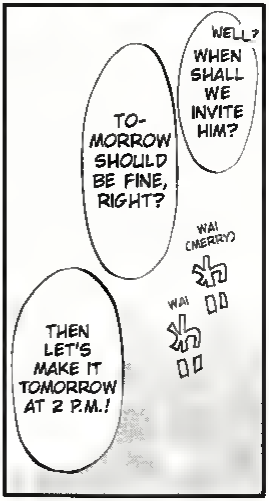
I'D LOVE TO SEND FOR HIM TO COME TO THE SWAN GAZEBO AND TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!
EH!?
NOT LONG AGO, WE WERE BOTH SAILING ABOARD THE ILL-FATED CAMPANIA ...
OHHH! THE SINKING OF THE LUXURY PASSENGER LINER!
I'VE GROWN TIRED OF LOOKING UPON THE SAME DOWDY FACES DAY IN AND DAY OUT.
AND TELL ME YOU LOT AREN'T THE LEAST BIT CURIOUS ABOUT HIS ILLUSTRIOUS TEA AND CAKES?
YOU'RE BEING INDISCREET, REDMOND. SO MANY LIVES WERE LOST IN THAT ACCIDENT.
I MERELY WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THE CUTIE-PIE'S TRAVELS!

I DIDN'T KNOW OF HIM, BUT...
...HE SOUNDS LIKE A TRULY AMAZING BOY!
BUT IF WE INVITE A NEW BOY TO A PLACE FULL OF SENIORS, HE MIGHT FEEL TOO NERVOUS TO—
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY.
I'M ALWAYS OF A MIND TO BE HARSH ON HIM BECAUSE WE'RE RELATED...
GYU (CLENCH)
...BUT...
...HAVING SEEN HIM SUCCEED THE ROLE OF EARL AND FAMILY HEAD WITH SUCH GRACE AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE...
...I RESPECT HIM AS A MAN.
IF YOU SPEAK SO HIGHLY OF HIM, I'VE GOT TO AGREE.
GREEN-HILL...


THEN IT'S DECIDED! YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU, LAWRENCE?
NO, AS LONG AS YOU STOP WITH THAT.

SOUNDS INTRIGUING ENOUGH. INVITE HIM, WHY DON'T YOU?
WHAT SAY YOU, VIOLET?
JUKOOOO (SLUUURP)
ジュコオオ

...THEY SAY TO STRIKE WHILE THE IRON'S HOT... SO I'LL GO TELL HIM NOW!
TOMORROW, 2 P.M., RIGHT!?

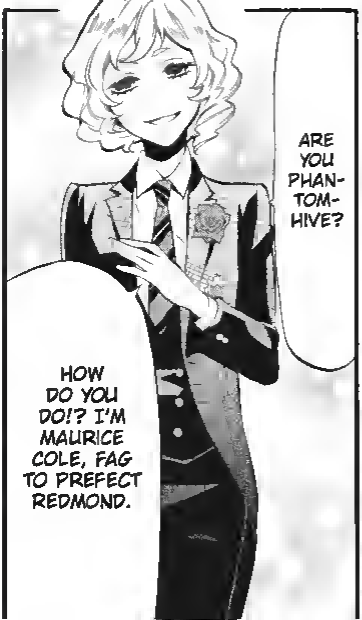

WELL? WHEN SHALL WE INVITE HIM?
TO-MORROW SHOULD BE FINE, RIGHT?
WAI (MERRY)
WAI
THEN LET'S MAKE IT TOMORROW AT 2 P.M.!

IN THAT CASE...

PHANTOMHIVE!
PH-PH-PH—
BATA (STAND)
BATA
BATA
HEY, YOU THERE.
I'D LIKE YOU TO GET SOMEONE FOR ME, IF YOU DON'T MIND...
ZAWA (GLAMOUR)
COLE'S SENT FOR YOU!
EEH!? AS IN MAU-RICE COLE!?
?
HYAAAAAH!
HUNH?
WHO'S THAT?
I JUST TALKED TO HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME!!

GUI (SHOVE)
NEVER MIND! JUST GO QUICK!!
GUI
O—! OKAY ...!?

HYOKO (POP)

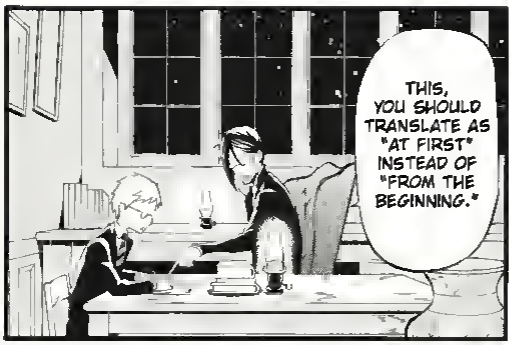

ARE YOU PHANTOM-HIVE?
HOW DO YOU DO!? I'M MAURICE COLE, FAG TO PREFECT REDMOND.

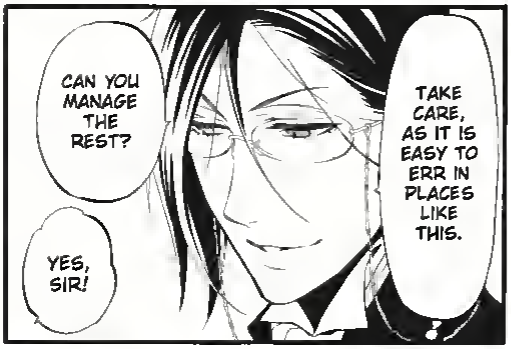
DON'T YOU KNOW THIS!?
MAURICE COLE, FAG TO THE PREFECT OF SCARLET FOX HOUSE.
HE'S THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BOY IN THIS SCHOOL!! HOW'D YOU GET ACQUAINTED WITH HIM?
NO, I'VE NEVER EVEN MET HIM...
WHY ARE YOU GETTING SO WORKED UP OVER A PRETTY BOY?

PON (CLAP) ぽん!
ER... MAY I HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING?
OHH! THAT'S RIGHT!
じ
JIIII (STARE)
...?
I AM CIEL PHANTOMHIVE.
...AND ENDED UP DECIDING THAT WE SHOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET YOU AND TALK TO YOU AT LEAST THE ONCE!
SO, PHANTOMHIVE!
I... SEE...
WELL, WE GOT TO TALKING ABOUT THE BRILLIANT NEW BOY...
YOU SEE, THE PREFECTS AND THEIR FAGS OFTEN GET TOGETHER AT THE SWAN GAZEBO, WHICH IS RESERVED FOR US ALONE.

WON'T YOU COME TO THE SWAN GAZEBO TOMORROW?
!!
THIS IS...
...MY CHANCE TO GET CLOSE TO THE P4 IN ONE GO!!
OF COURSE I ACCEPT!

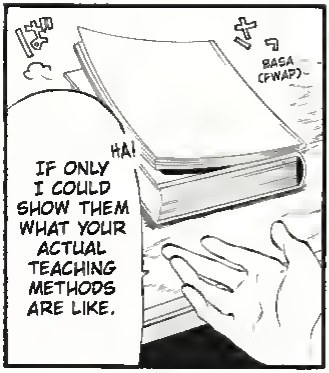
WE'LL BE WAITING AT THE SWAN GAZEBO AT 4 P.M. TOMORROW!
REALLY? I'M SO GLAAAD!
THEN...
I'M SO JEALOUS! I WANNA GO TOOOO!
OOOOH!!
YOU'RE AMAZING, PHANTOM-HIVE!!
DO (STOMP)
DO
DO
DO
DO
"KAAA! SEE YOU LAAAATER!
WA!
わ!!
LET'S BE FRIENDS!
YOU'D BETTER GIVE US ALL THE DETAILS LATER, "KAAA"~!?
ANESOOOOME!!
ONLY THE P4 AND THEIR ENTOURAGE ARE ALLOWED IN THE SWAN GAZEBO!!
WA! (CHATTER)
わ!!

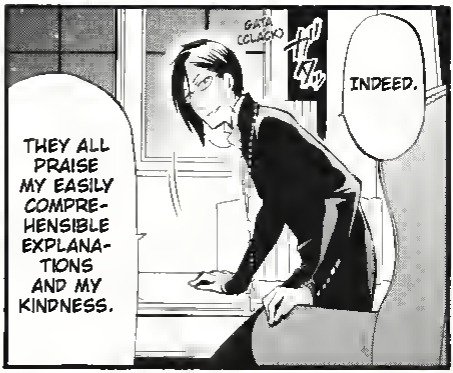

THIS, YOU SHOULD TRANSLATE AS "AT FIRST" INSTEAD OF "FROM THE BEGINNING."


CAN YOU MANAGE THE REST?
TAKE CARE, AS IT IS EASY TO ERR IN PLACES LIKE THIS.
YES, SIR!

YOUR EXPLANA-TIONS ARE ALWAYS SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND, MISTER MICHAELIS!
GOOD NIGHT, SIR!
THANKS EVER SO MUCH!
YES, GOOD NIGHT, NOW.

KON (KNOCK) KON
コンコン
MISTER MICHAELIS! THERE'S A BIT HERE I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND. WON'T YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN IT TO ME?
...COME IN.
KACHA (KACHAK)
カチャ
HMPH!
PATAN (SHUT)
パタン
WHY, NOW, DON'T YOU SEEM TO BE AWFULLY POPULAR, MISTER MICHAELIS?


HA!
BASA (FWAP)
IF ONLY I COULD SHOW THEM WHAT YOUR ACTUAL TEACHING METHODS ARE LIKE.


GATA (CLACK)
INDEED.
THEY ALL PRAISE MY EASILY COMPREHENSIBLE EXPLANATIONS AND MY KINDNESS.

DOSA (FWUMP)
THIS IS A RARE OPPORTUNITY.
I MUST GET THE P4 AND THEIR *INNER CIRCLE* TO TAKE A SHINE TO ME.

I HAVE HEARD.
I WAS INVITED TO A P4 GATHERING TOMORROW AT 4 P.M..

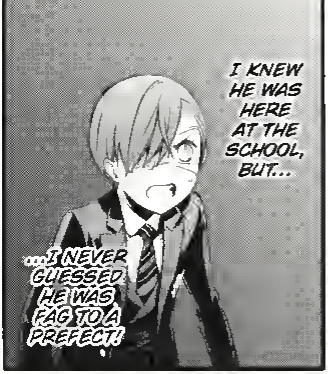
WHY IN BLAZES DO I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING SO INANE LIKE HAND OUT CAKES TO CHILDREN ...?
QUITE RIGHT, SIR.
SO FIRST, I MUST HAVE TEA CAKES.
KODOFO (BLUBLUB)
コポポ…
KOTO (TOK)
HOWEVER, I AM DUE TO COACH CRICKET TOMORROW AT 4 P.M....
WHICH WOULD YOU HAVE ME PRIORITISE?
YOU CAN WIN THEM OVER WITH REAL SWEETS *INSTEAD OF THE MONETARY KIND.*
IS IT NOT ADORABLY NOVEL THOUGH?
BUT, IN EXCHANGE ...
I HIGHLY DOUBT WE'LL BE COMING TO BLOWS. I'LL BE FINE ON MY OWN.
IF YOU ORDER IT, I CAN LAY IN WAIT NEARBY.

MAKE ME SOMETHING THAT WILL KNOCK THE SOCKS OFF THE P4!
...I COMMAND YOU, SEBASTIAN.
YES, MY LORD.
COME IN.
MISTER MICHAELIS, I'VE COME ACROSS A PART I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT EXPLAIN TO ME.
KON (KNOCK)
KON

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR TUTORING ME!
MY PLEASURE.
GACHA CHACHAK
PARDON ME.
WELL, THEN, MISTER MICHAELIS.
GOOD NIGHT.
PHANTOM-HIVE.

EH!?

!?
I-I WAS TOLD TO COME HERE AT 4 P.M....
TWO HOURS LATE!? ARE YOU HAVING US ON, PHANTOM-HIVE!!?
EEH!?
!!
OH, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS! ...WHY, YOU!!?
EEEEH? BUT I TOLD YOU QUITE SPECIFICALLY, DIDN'T I?
THAT WE WOULD BE EXPECTING YOU AT 2 P.M.!
MAKING EXCUSES AT THIS STAGE OF THE GAME ONLY MAKES YOU LOOK A POOR SPORT, CIEL!
KO (CLICK)


I KNEW HE WAS HERE AT THE SCHOOL, BUT...
...I NEVER GUESSED HE WAS PAL TO A PREFECT!

EDWARD!?

GIRI (GRIP)
I WAS A FOOL FOR HAVING EVEN A LITTLE FAITH IN YOU...
EH ...?

GET OUT!

YOU ...!
YOU'VE BETRAYED MY EXPECTATIONS, AS WELL AS THOSE OF MY SENIORS!

DOSA (WHUMP)
DAMN!! I'VE BEEN HAD!!
HUMANS ENVY THOSE WHO EXCEL...
IT IS NOT AS THOUGH YOU HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH ENVY AIMED AT YOU.
.....
HEH! HEH!
GIVE IT TO ME IN WRITING!!
THIS IS WHY I LOATHE VERBAL AGREE-MENTS!!
DEAR, OH DEAR, YOUNG MASTER. YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN BECAUSE YOU WERE DEALING WITH A STUDENT.
UGAAAAAH!
HAVE YOU EXPLAINED YOURSELF AND APOLOGISED TO LORD EDWARD?
KACHA (CLINK)
DOING SO WOULD BE LOST ON SOMEONE OF HIS ILK.
AND I DID IN FACT BREAK THE APPOINT-MENT.

THEN WILL YOU LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE AND SIMPLY CRY YOURSELF TO SLEEP TONIGHT?
ZAKU (STAB)
I THINK NOT!!
WHATEVER IT TAKES, I WILL FIND A WAY TO MAKE THE PREFECTS BRING ME INTO THEIR CIRCLE.
AND I'LL ALSO SETTLE MY ACCOUNTS WITHOUT FAIL!
I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET SQUANDERING MY EFFORTS...
...MAURICE COLE!

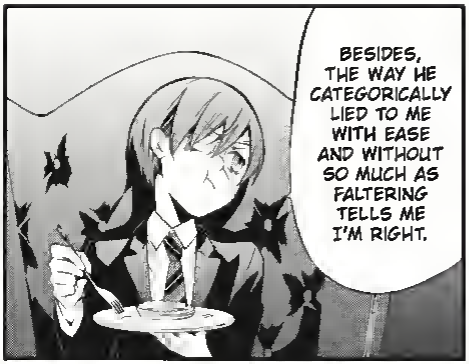
Black Butler

CHAPTER 70

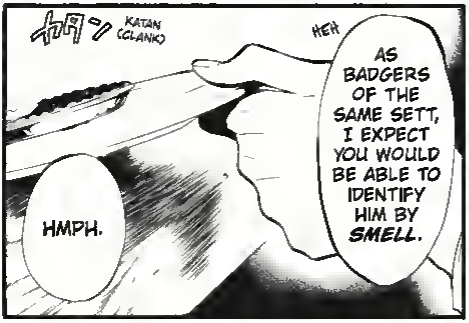
In the afternoon : The Butler, Guiding

Black Butler

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?
DID YOU SEE HIS HANDS?
HIS HANDS?
THE HANDS OF THE FAGS IN SCHOOL TEND TO BE BLISTERED AND CHAPPED FROM RUNNING ERRANDS FOR THE UPPER-CLASSMEN.
HOWEVER, HIS HANDS ARE AS WHITE AND PURE AS THE DRIVEN SNOW...
...WHICH MEANS...
MAURICE COLE.
HE MUST BE A PATHOLOGICAL LIAR.

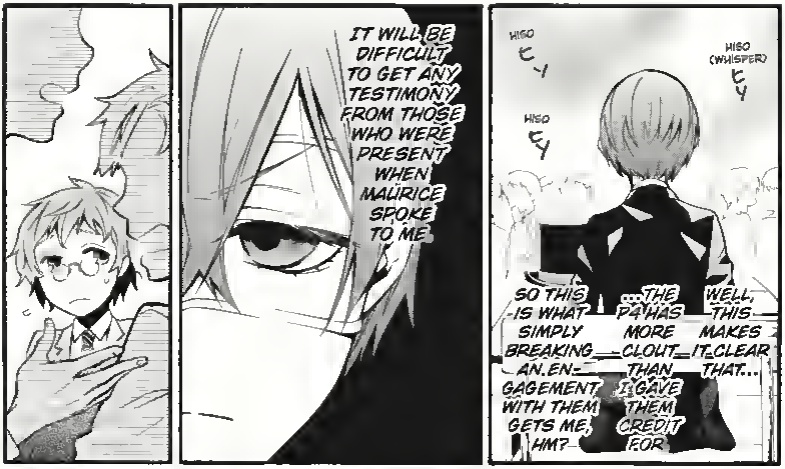

BESIDES, THE WAY HE CATEGORICALLY LIED TO ME WITH EASE AND WITHOUT SO MUCH AS FALTERING TELLS ME I'M RIGHT.

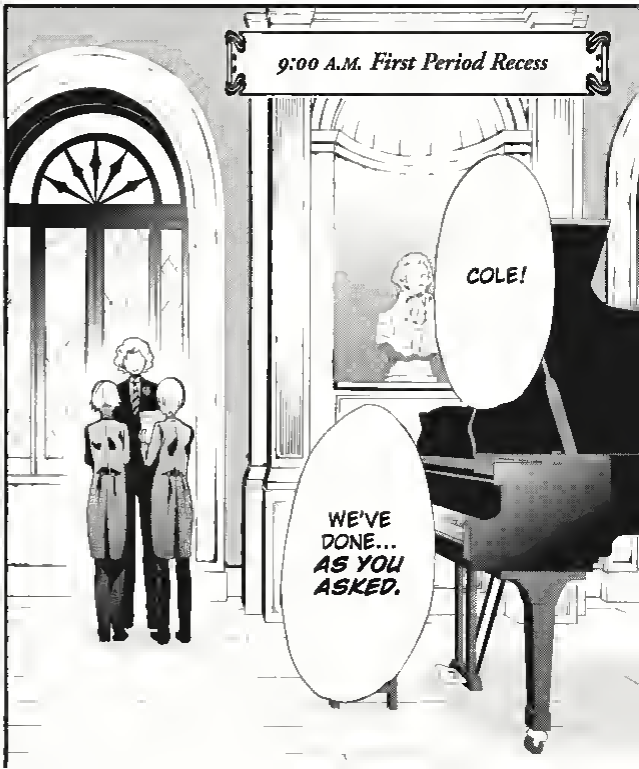
HE TOO IS RESORTING TO DIRTY TRICKS LIKE YOU, YOUNG MASTER?
EXACTLY.
THAT PART AT THE END WAS WHOLLY UNCALLED FOR!


KATAN (CLANK)
HER
AS BADGERS OF THE SAME SETT, I EXPECT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY HIM BY *SMELL*.
HMPH.

I CAN PROVE THE FALSEHOOD IN HIS STATEMENT WITH NO TROUBLE, BUT...
...THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO PUT AN END TO IT.
SEBASTIAN, FIND OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN ENTRAPPED BY COLE LIKE I WAS.

AS YOU WISH, SIR.
AND I ALSO WANT YOU TO THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE MAURICE'S BEHAVIOURAL PATTERNS AND HABITS.
GARAAAN
ガラーン
GARAAAN (CLANNNG)
7:20 A.M.
Attending School
ZAWA
POTGUN (ALONE)
ぽつん
I'M AMAZED HE'S STILL IN ONE PIECE!
WOW ~!
ZAWA
SURELY NOT!
WORD HAS IT HE SKIPPED OUT ON A MEETING WITH THE PM!
ざわ
ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA
ざわ…
DID YOU HEAR?


IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO GET ANY TESTIMONY FROM THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT WHEN MAURICE SPOKE TO ME.
HISO
HISO
HISO (WHISPER)
SO THIS IS WHAT SIMPLY BREAKING AN ENGAGEMENT WITH THEM GETS ME, HM?
...THE PA HAS MORE CLOUT THAN I GAVE THEM CREDIT FOR.
WELL, THIS MAKES IT CLEAR THAT...


9:00 A.M. First Period Recess
COLE!
WE'VE DONE... AS YOU ASKED.

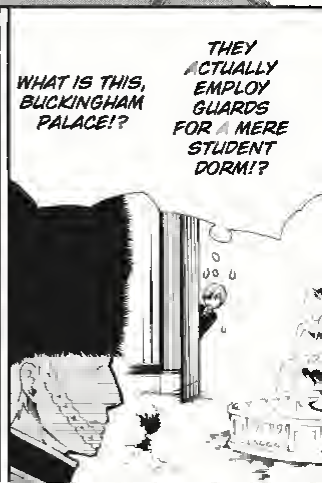
THANK YOU.
YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT HELP.
I'VE GOT TO DECIDE ON MY OWN FAG SOON.
A FELLOW AS CAPABLE AS THE TWO OF YOU!
SEE YOU LATER.
IT'S GONNA BE ME!
NO, ME, I SAY!!
PARA
THERE'S JUST NO END TO THE DUTIES OF A PREFECT'S FAG, YOU KNOW!
PARA (FLAP)
BUT LET'S MAKE THIS OUR LITTLE SECRET, ALL RIGHT?
WE UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY! WE'RE HAPPY WE WERE ABLE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE!
KON
KON (KNOCK)
EXCUSE ME.

REDMOND, I'VE COMPILED THE DATA AS YOU REQUESTED!
!
THAT WAS QUICK.
YOU'VE DONE YOUR USUAL NEAT JOB OF IT, I SEE. YOU'RE ALWAYS A GREAT HELP.
NO, NO. NOT AT ALL.
OH! RIGHT, RIGHT.
DO YOU HAVE ANY REQUESTS FOR YOUR SNACK TODAY?
HMM... NOW LET ME SEE.
IT'S BEEN SOME TIME SINCE I'VE HAD YOUR LEMON MYRTLE SOUFFLÉ GLACÉ.
I'D LIKE TO HAVE A TASTE OF THAT AGAIN.
PEKA (BEAM)
GLADLY! ☆

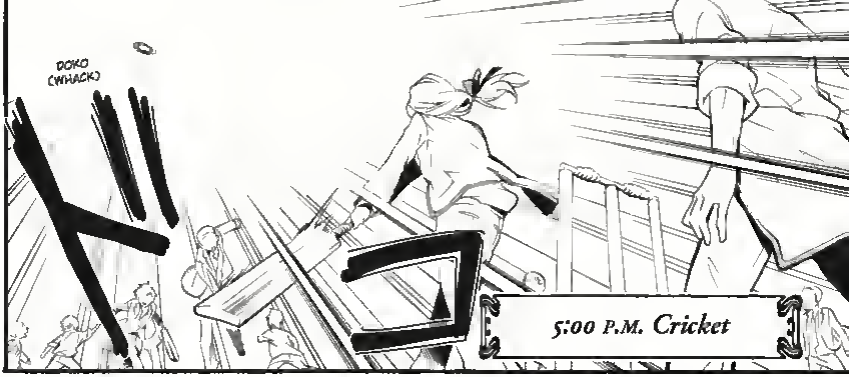
10:00 A.M. Fag Time
11
Scarlet Fox House
(COMMONLY CALLED
RED HOUSE)
Scarlet Fox

BISHI (SHWP)
KEEP UP THE FINE WORK AS ALWAYS, CHAPS!
!?

2:00 P.M. Afternoon Break
Swan Gazebo


WHAT IS THIS, BUCKINGHAM PALACE!?
THEY ACTUALLY EMPLOY GUARDS FOR A MERE STUDENT DORM!?

REDMOND, I PRESENT YOU WITH THE LEMON MYRTLE SOUFFLÉ GLACÉ YOU REQUESTED.
AND WE HAVE MILK TEA TODAY, MADE WITH UVA TEA LEAVES.
BLIMEY, HOW D'YOU MANAGE TO MAKE THAT COMPLICATED STUFF EVERY SINGLE DAY?
PLEASE HAVE SOME TOO IF YOU'D LIKE, VIOLET.
BUKU
BUKU GLUP
REDMOND DESERVES NOTHING BUT THE BEST!

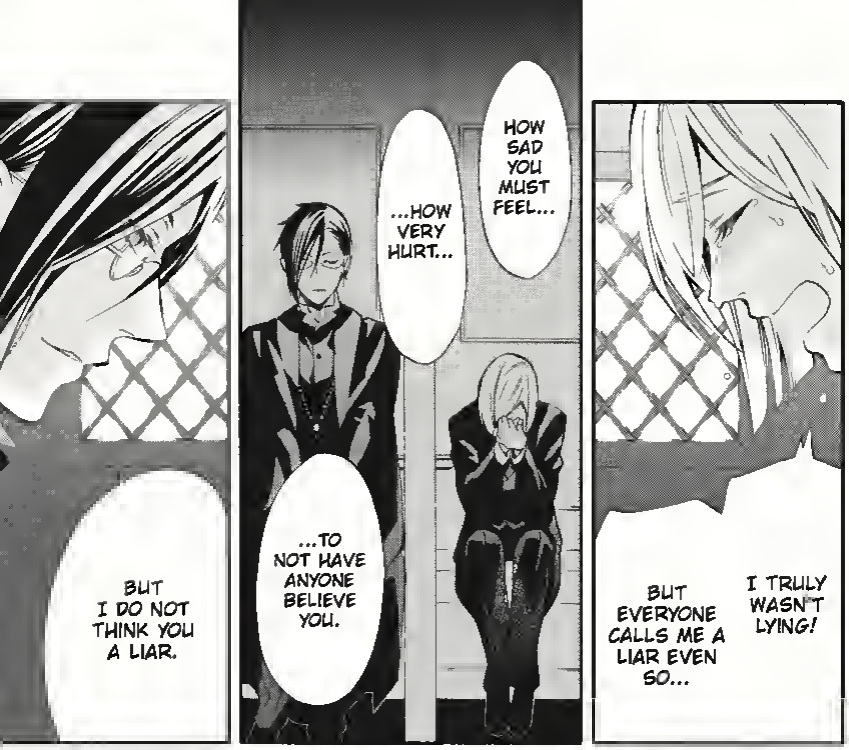

DOKO
(WHACK)
5:00 P.M. Cricket

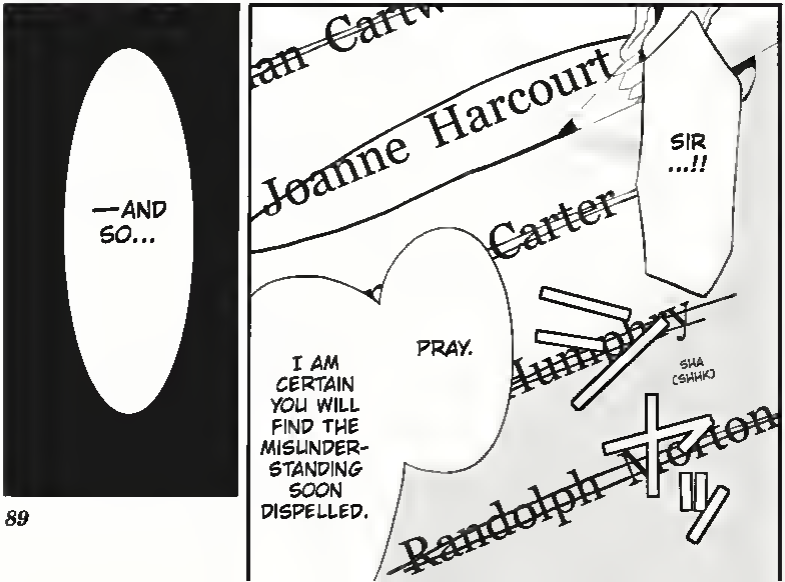
Library

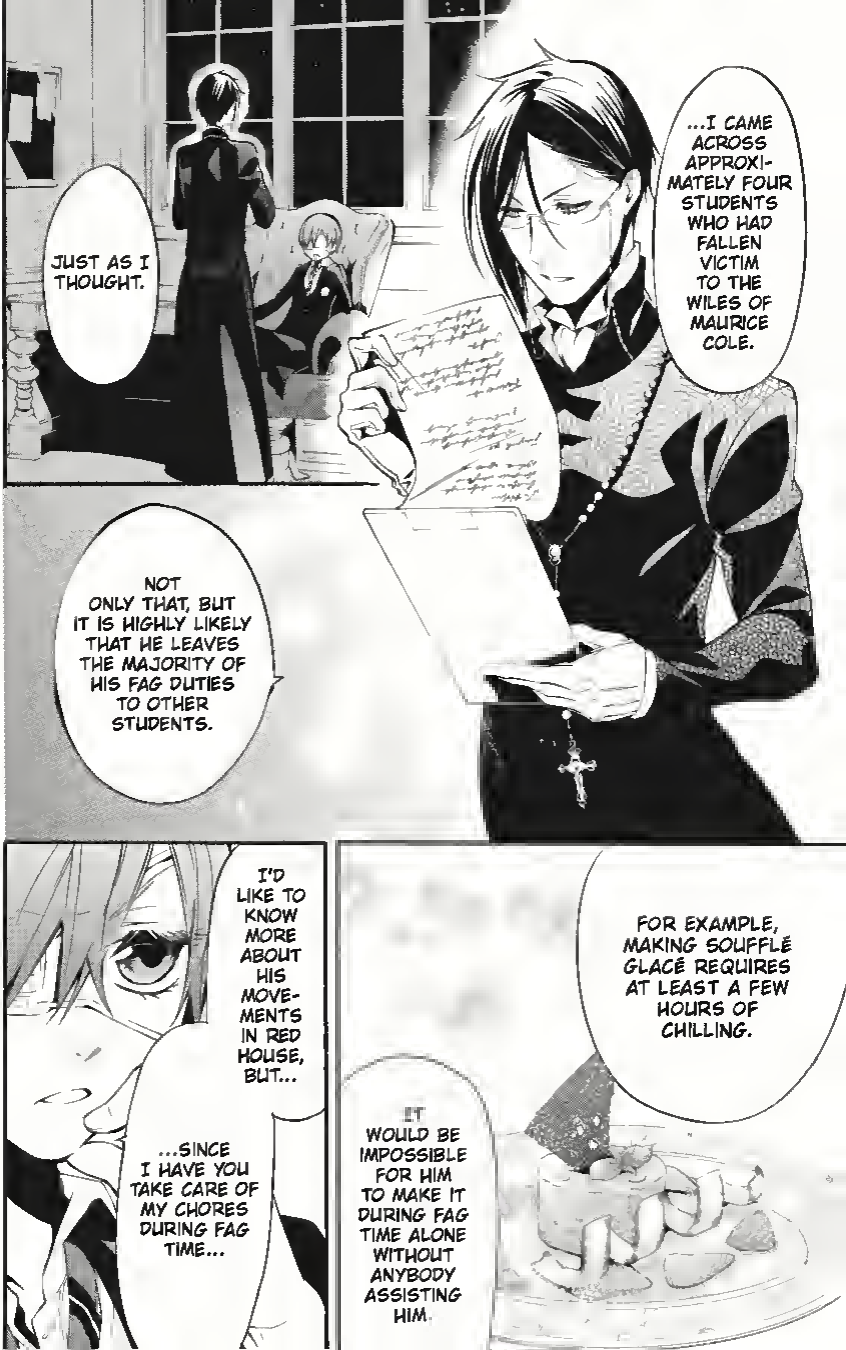
JOLLY GOOD SAVE, REDMOND!

LOGIC OF
egel
SU (SLIDE)
YOU HAVE SOME QUITE DIFFICULT READING THERE, I SEE.
WHAT FORM ARE YOU?
AH...
EKU (FLINCH)
I DARESAY YOU MUST BE QUITE POPULAR IN CLASS SINCE YOU CAN READ THE ORIGINAL TEXT OF HEGEL'S "LOGIC" AT YOUR AGE?
THE LOGIC OF
Hegel
I'M HARCOURT, A SECOND-FORMER, SIR.
SECOND FORM? THAT IS WONDERFUL, INDEED.
DON (POOMF)

I'M AFRAID I'M NOT GOOD FOR MUCH ELSE BESIDES READING...
FUI (PHEW?)
NOTHING OF THE SORT, SIR...!
PLEASE, COME TO THE CHAPEL IF YOU WISH.
SU (SIGH?)
THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE, LAD... DOES SOMETHING WEIGH UPON YOUR MIND?
COLE SAID THAT HE DID INDEED HAND DELIVER AN INVITATION TO THE SWAN GAZEBO TO ME, BUT...
...I NEVER RECEIVED IT.
AND SOMEHOW, DESPITE IT ALL, THERE THE INVITATION WAS, IN MY DESK...
Chapel


I TRULY WASN'T LYING!
BUT EVERYONE CALLS ME A LIAR EVEN SO...
HOW SAD YOU MUST FEEL...
...HOW VERY HURT...
...TO NOT HAVE ANYONE BELIEVE YOU.
BUT I DO NOT THINK YOU A LIAR.


—AND SO...
Joanne Harcourt
Carter
SIR ...!!
PRAY.
I AM CERTAIN YOU WILL FIND THE MISUNDER-STANDING SOON DISPELLED.
SHA (SHHK)
Randolph Norton III


...I CAME ACROSS APPROXIMATELY FOUR STUDENTS WHO HAD FALLEN VICTIM TO THE WILES OF MAURICE COLE.
JUST AS I THOUGHT.
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT IT IS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT HE LEAVES THE MAJORITY OF HIS FAG DUTIES TO OTHER STUDENTS.
I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HIS MOVEMENTS IN RED HOUSE, BUT...
...SINCE I HAVE YOU TAKE CARE OF MY CHORES DURING FAG TIME...
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO MAKE IT DURING FAG TIME ALONE WITHOUT ANYBODY ASSISTING HIM.
FOR EXAMPLE, MAKING SOUFFLÉ GLACÉ REQUIRES AT LEAST A FEW HOURS OF CHILLING.

HOWEVER, I CANNOT RECOMMEND CREATING ANOTHER VACANCY BY FORCE.
ESPECIALLY IN SUCH A SHORT TIME...
HRNNN...
...I NEED ANOTHER PAWN IN RED HOUSE, WHERE MAURICE RESIDES.
AND LET'S NOT FORGET IT WAS DERRICK'S HOUSE AS WELL.
Green Lion
Scarlet Wolf
Scarlet Fox
Sapphire Owl
HOUSE ASSIGNMENTS DEPEND ON ONE'S SOCIAL STATUS AND THE LIKE-MINDEDNESS OF ONE'S PERSONALITY.
BESIDES, EVEN IF SOMEONE IS OFFERED A PLACE, HE CANNOT CHOOSE THE HOUSE IN WHICH HE IS TO RESIDE.
.. AND WHO WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENROLL AS A SPECIAL EXCEPTION EVEN IF THERE ARE NO VACANC—
BUT WHERE AM I TO FIND SOMEONE POSSESSING BOTH THE STATUS AND WEALTH THAT WILL GUARANTEE HIS ASSIGNMENT TO THE SCARLET FOX HOUSE, WHICH ALLOWS ONLY THE NOBLEST OF BLOODLINES...
HAAH...
I KNOW, I KNOW.
BOSU (BWOOF)

HA
(GASP)

I'VE JUST THOUGHT OF SOMEONE, BUT I ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY DO NOT WANT TO SEND FOR HIM...!!
ARRRGH...
HOWEVER, HE IS INDEED A RATHER SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL WHO SATISFIES ALL THOSE CONDITIONS.

UUUHRRNNN...
DAMN... NEEDS MUST WHEN THE DEVIL DRIVES, I SUPPOSE ...
I'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANYTHING I CAN USE!

Phantom-hive. ...Are you asleep?
...No.
Say, can I come over and talk to you?
.....
Sure.
GI (CREAK)

I'm sorry about not standing up for you at school.
Don't worry.
We've got to make it through six years of this place, so... I completely understand.
But why on earth would you go and do such a thing?
What made you break your appointment with the P4?
It wasn't my intention to do so.
I was told to come at four, but the appointment had actually been for two.
EEH!?
GATA
HEM!
SHHH!!
But we heard him say four too, you know?
Right?
But there's nothing more to be done about it now, so...

If my word alone isn't good enough, I'll ask around for other witnesses to come forward.
You didn't do anything wrong.
WE WERE AAAAALL EAVESDROPPING ANYWAY!
I know!
I'll prove you're right!
Eh?
No trouble at all!
Thank you, McMillan.
All right... I'd really appreciate your help.
ZAWA (BUZZ)
NOOOH!
ZAWA
WHAT IS IT?
THIS WAY! THIS WAY!!
LOOK AT THAT!
UWAAAH! AMAZ-ING!

SHAN
(SHANG)

DON
(BAM)

OHHHH!!
SO THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL A SCHOOL!
SHAN (CLANG)
SHAN
IT IS QUITE LARGE! ABOUT THE SIZE OF MY FAMILY HOME!
SAY!
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING AN ELEPHANT!
I HEAR HE'S A PRINCE FROM INDIA!
BE THAT AS IT MAY, I STILL DID NOT ANTICIPATE THAT HE WOULD COME TO SCHOOL ON AN ELEPHANT.
THE BRAND AND WEALTH OF INDIAN ROYALTY IS CLEARLY NOTHING TO SCOFF AT.
HE'S MADE IT INTO RED HOUSE IN SPLENDID FASHION, I SEE...
どよっ
DOYO (CLAMOUR)
!!!
CIEL!! I'VE COME FOR YOU!!
FRESH!!
OH!

SUTA (STRIDE)
SUTA
SUTA
SUTA
CIEEEEL ~? HEEEY!
DOSU (STOMP)
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
DOSU
DOSU
I WAS SURPRISED TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM YOU OUT OF THE BLUE!
THAT IDIOT. I INSISTED IN MY LETTER THAT HE PRETEND WE'RE PERFECT STRANGERS ...!
IF YOU'D TOLD ME YOU WOULD BE LONELY HERE, I COULD HAVE COME WITH YOU, SILLY!
PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW HIM
.....
PAOOON (TRUMPET)
UWAAAAA
PACHIN (SNAP)
GUWA (GRAB)

WHY DON'T WE GO TOGETHER!?
ENOUGH WITH YOUR JOKES —!!
PUT ME DOWN AT ONCE, YOU!!

I-I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE SENT FOR YOOOU —!!!
DARN, WE'LL BE LATE. C'MON, LET'S RUN FOR IT!
DOSU (STOMP)
UWAH! YOU IDIOT! ST-STOP-PPP!
DOSU
PRE-TEND-ING NOT TO KNOW HIM
GOOD MORNING
G-GOOD MORNING, SIR

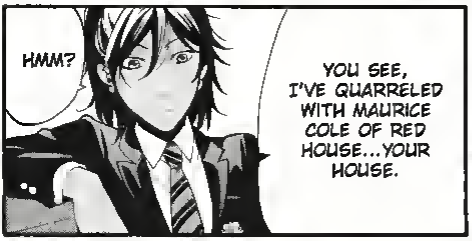
Black Butler

CHAPTER 7.1

At night : The Butler, Plotting

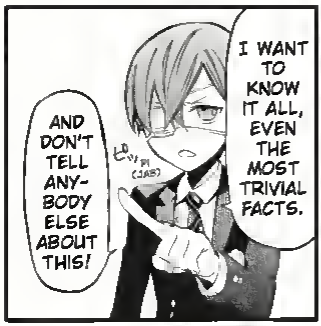
ZUN
ズン
YOU LOOK TO BE DOING BETTER THAN I'D THOUGHT!
ZUN (THOOM)
ズン

ゆっさ
YUSSA
ゆっさ
YUSSA (SWAY)
IT WAS QUITE A SCENE, YOU KNOW! AGNI WANTED TERRIBLY TO COME WITH ME.
BUT IT SEEMS BRINGING SERVANTS ALONG IS PROHIBITED IN YOUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
MY FIANCÉE
WELL, THAT'S JUST COMMON SENSE...


HMM?
YOU SEE, I'VE QUARRELED WITH MAURICE COLE OF RED HOUSE...YOUR HOUSE.

RIGHT. WHAT IS IT? LET'S HAVE IT, THEN.
THERE IS A REASON I ASKED YOU TO COME.

SHIN (MOVED)
AND SO I THOUGHT PERHAPS I COULD USE YOUR HELP...
AS YOU ALREADY KNOW, I HAVEN'T TOO MANY FRIENDS...
...SO I'M AFRAID I DON'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER WITH HIM.
FIRST, HOW ABOUT THE THREE OF US HAVE A CURRY DINNER TOGETHER?
NO, THAT WON'T BE POSSIBLE.
SO YOU'VE COME TO RECOGNISE YOUR FLAWS!!
ALL RIGHT! I UNDERSTAND!
I'LL GLADLY GIVE YOU A HAND, MY GLOOMY AND SELF-DEPRECATING FELLOW!
I SAID NOTHING OF THE SORT
HEY.
...SO I'D LIKE TO TALK TO HIM AGAIN AFTER I'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW HIM BETTER.
I SEEM TO HAVE MADE HIM SO ANGRY HE DOESN'T EVEN WANT TO SEE ME...
SHAN (JANGLE)
SHAN
WHY NOT?


I WANT TO KNOW IT ALL, EVEN THE MOST TRIVIAL FACTS.
AND DON'T TELL ANY-BODY ELSE ABOUT THIS!

GOT IT! IT'LL BE OUR SECRET!

I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD OBSERVE MAURICE CLOSELY FOR ME AND TELL ME WHAT HE'S LIKE...
...ESPECIALLY WHAT HE'S LIKE AT RED HOUSE, SINCE I CAN'T SEE THAT SIDE OF HIM FOR MYSELF.

Scarlet Fox House

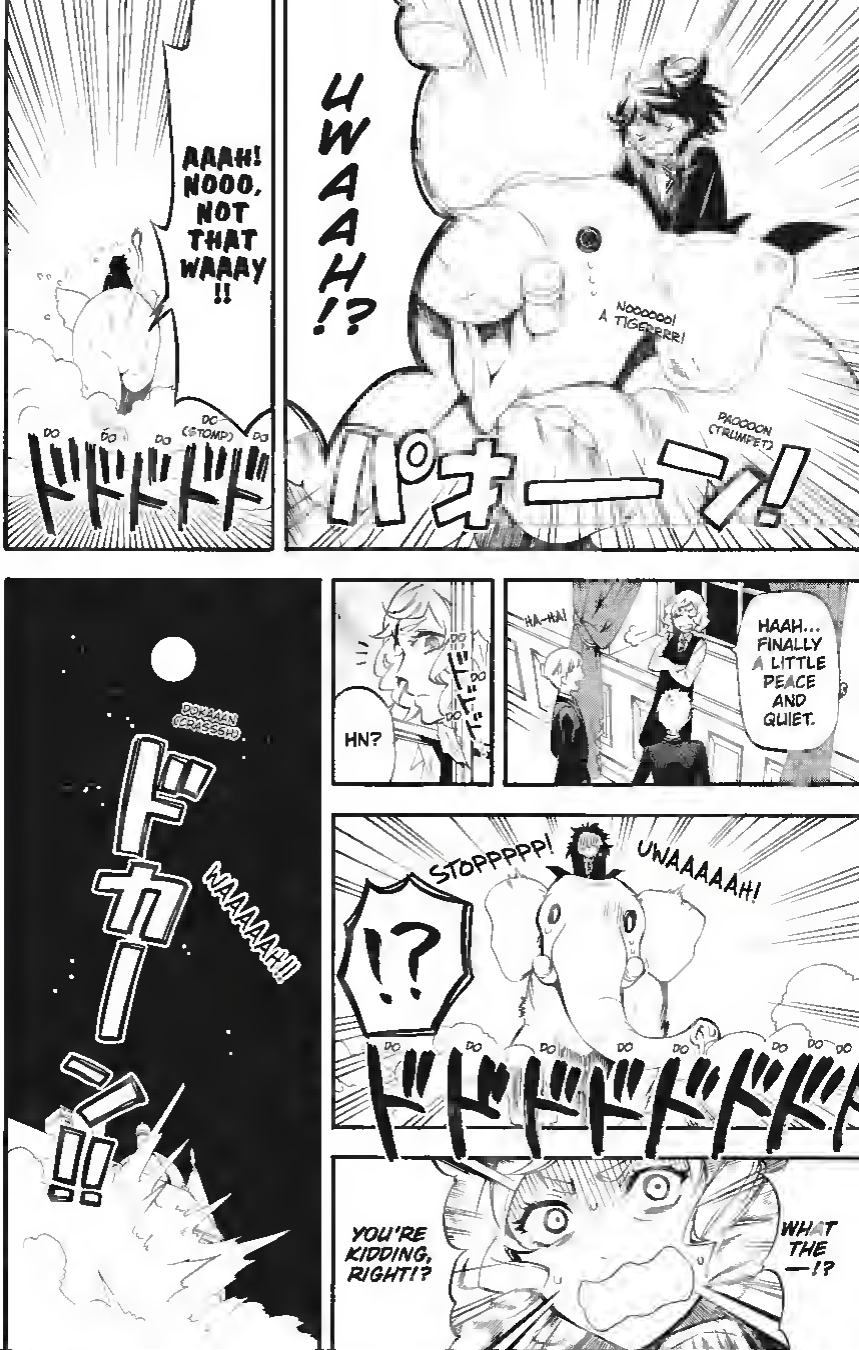
ZUSHIIN (SHASHOON)
ALL RIGHT I'M COUNTING ON YOU...
ALL WILL BE WELL! LEAVE IT TO YOUR BEST FRIEND!
ZUSHIIN
ELEPHANT SICKNESS

HEY, YOU THERE!
DON (BAM)
MAKE NICE WITH CIEL!!
PUI (PWIP)
YOU DO REALISE HE BROUGHT DISGRACE UPON THE PREFECTS?
AS THE FAG OF ONE OF THOSE PREFECTS, THERE IS NO WAY I CAN FORGIVE HIM!!
...HUNH?
ムーン
MUUUN (SIGH)

C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
C'MON!
COME ONNN, I SAY!
C'MON. YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU JUST TALK TO HIM.
C'MON. HE HAS HIS GOOD POINTS TOO.
C'MON. YOU REALLY WON'T BE FRIENDS WITH HIM?

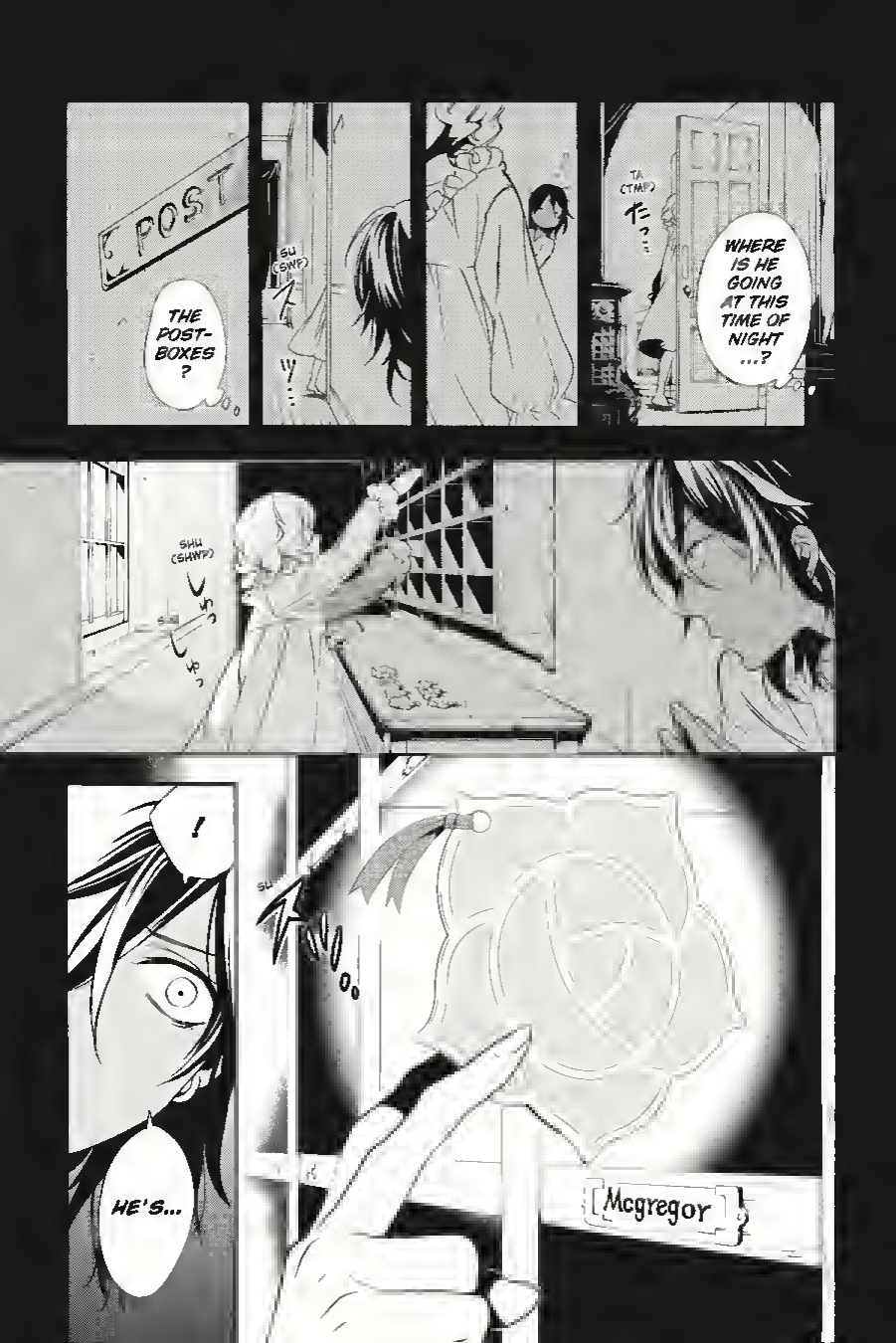
DON'T FOLLOW ME ANY-MORE!!
BAN (SLAM)
201
NNAAARRGH!
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU!!!?
AAAAAA (SCREAM)
BUCHIIN (SNAP)
ブチーン!

I THINK I'LL GO TO CIEL'S FOR A LARK!
RIGHT, THEN!
LOOKS LIKE I HAVE TIME TO SPARE!
SHIIN
レーーん…
URO
URO (PEEK)
SHIIN (SILENCE)
レーん
HE'S A BIT LIKE CIEL...
Scarlet Fox House Stables
WHAT IS IT!?
A CAT!?
DOKII (LOADING)
G S (RUSTLE)
BLUE HOUSE IS A LITTLE FAR AWAY AFTER ALL!
HIIRARI (WAVERING)
AAAALL RIGHT! ELEPHANT, TO CIEL! GO!


AAAH! NOOO, NOT THAT WAAAY !!
DO DO DO (STOMP) DO
ドドドドド
UWAAAH!?
NOOOOOO! A TIGERRR!
PAOOOON (TRUMPET)
パオーーン!
DOKAAAN (CRASSSH)
ドカーン!!
KAAAAAAH!!
HN?
HA-HA!
HAAH... FINALLY A LITTLE PEACE AND QUIET.
STOPPPPP!
UWAAAAAH!
!?
ドドドドドドドドド
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT!?
WHAT THE —!?

KADAR, THAT'S FIVE Ys FOR YOU!!
HENCE-FORTH, ELEPHANTS SHALL BE FORBIDDEN ON SCHOOL GROUNDS!
SORRY.
TEE-HEE!
YOU CALL THAT AN APOLO-GYYY!?
Y
A UNIT OF PUNISH-MENT FOR EACH "Y," STUDENTS MUST TRAN-SCRIBE A LATIN POEM ONE HUNDRED TIMES.
DOYO (MURMUR)
どよ…
DOYO
どよ
ALL THE ROOMS ARE FULL AT THE MOMENT.
IN ANY CASE, I'M QUITE THROWN...
SFX: GI (GRIT) GI GI GI
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TO MY ROOM FOR NOW?
EH!?
NO! PLEASE, MY BED IS HIS!
HUNH!!?
WHAT NONSENSE IS THIS? WHO WOULD STAY IN A ROOM THAT BELONGS TO YOU OF ALL PE—
DOYA (CHUFFED)
ドヤ
WHAT CAN I SAY!? I'M A MAN WITH A STRONG SENSE OF RESPON-SIBILITY!

CAPITAL —! I'LL SHOW YOU THE WAY!
ZURU! (DRAG)
ズル
ZURU!
ズル
NO, PLEASE WAIT!
REDMOND!?
I LEAVE HIM IN YOUR HANDS
THAT'S THE SPIRIT, KADAR.
HAAA (SIGH)
ハアー
HERE, USE THIS BED.
GISHI (CREAK)
ギシ…
NN?
NGAA (SNORE)


POST
THE POST-BOXES ?
SU (SWP)
TA (TMP)
WHERE IS HE GOING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT ...?
SHU (SHWP)
!
HE'S...
SU...
Mcgregor

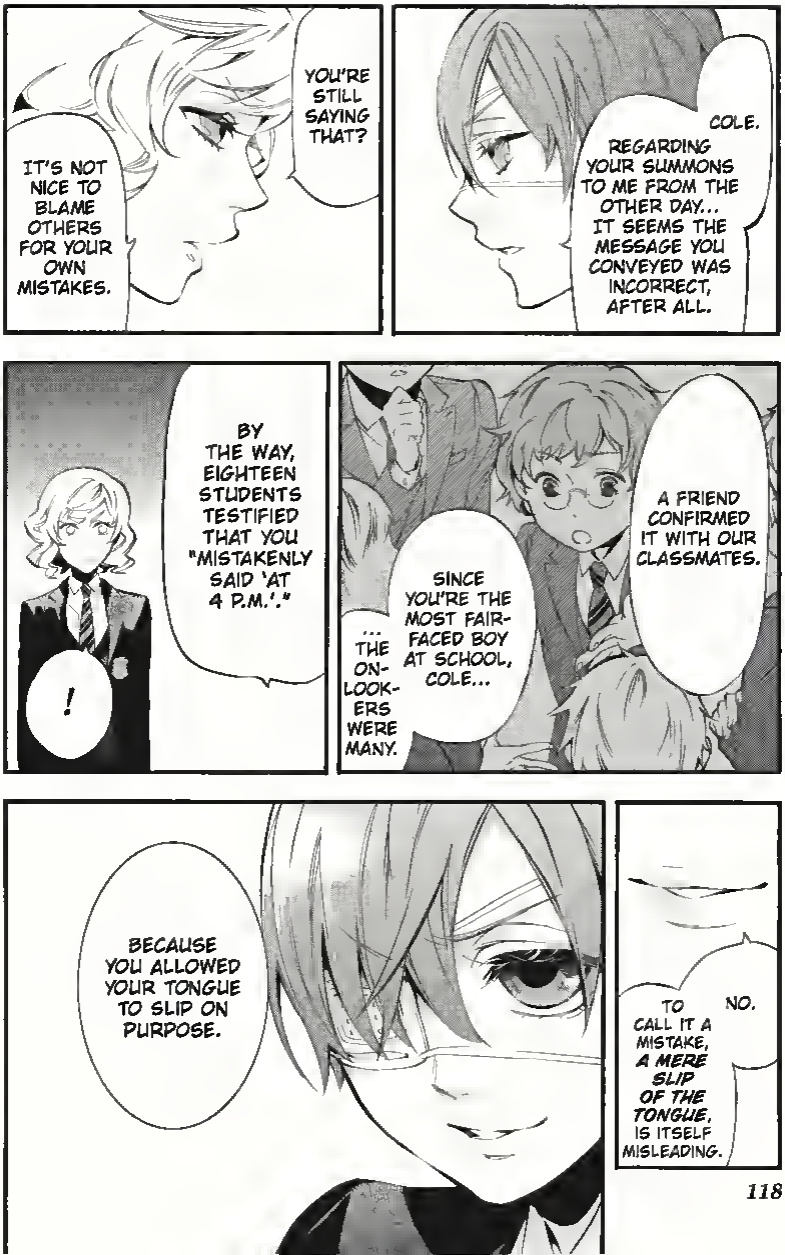
Chapel
EEP!?
I THOUGHT WE WEREN'T ALLOWED TO BRING OUR SERVANTS ALONG!?
LET'S JUST SAY HE HAS A VERY GOOD REASON FOR BEING HERE.
WELCOME, PRINCE SOMA.
THE YOUNG MASTER AWAITS YOU WITHIN.
SFX: GO (RUMBLE) GO GO GO GO
SO? HAVE YOU FOUND ANY-THING OUT?
OH, YES! YOU SEE...
IF YOU SHOULD LET SLIP THIS FACT...
I-I-I-I-I-I WON'T!!
PRINCE SOMA, I PRAY YOU WILL DO US THE GREAT FAVOUR OF KEEPING THE FACT THAT I AM YOUNG MASTER'S BUTLER TO YOURSELF.
HAHA (PANIC)
BA
ばば
ば

...IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, I CAUGHT HIM POSTING FLOWER-SHAPED CARDS TO RED HOUSE RESIDENTS ON THE SLY.
THEY WERE ABOUT THIS BIG.
AND SOOOO VERY MANY OF THEM TOO!
CARDS, YOU SAY?
WHAT A BASHFUL FELLOW!
WHY, HE'D BE BETTER OFF TALKING TO THEM FACE TO FACE!
IT SEEMS WE FINALLY HAVE A LEAD ON SOME PROOF.
NOW TO DECIDE ON THE BEST METHOD FOR *MAKING IT UP TO HIM.*
OH! AND ONE *MORE* THING. HE...

THANK YOU.
I COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU.
!!
YES, NOW ALL THE PIECES HAVE FALLEN INTO PLACE.
YOUNG MASTER ...!

WE'LL SETTLE THIS TOMOR-ROW!
AS YOU WISH, SIR.
TIME FOR A STRATEGY MEETING, SEBASTIAN.
SIR YOUNG LAMASTER! YOU CAN COUNT ON ME ANYTIME!!

—WELL? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
Third Art Room
I WON'T TAKE MUCH OF YOUR TIME.
I SIMPLY WANTED TO CONFIRM A SMALL MATTER.
YOU'VE CALLED ME TO THIS ROOM AND ALL...
I REALLY MUST BE GETTING TO THE SWAN GAZEBO, YOU KNOW.


YOU'RE STILL SAYING THAT?
IT'S NOT NICE TO BLAME OTHERS FOR YOUR OWN MISTAKES.
COLE. REGARDING YOUR SUMMONS TO ME FROM THE OTHER DAY... IT SEEMS THE MESSAGE YOU CONVEYED WAS INCORRECT, AFTER ALL.
BY THE WAY, EIGHTEEN STUDENTS TESTIFIED THAT YOU "MISTAKENLY SAID 'AT 4 P.M.'."
!
A FRIEND CONFIRMED IT WITH OUR CLASSMATES.
SINCE YOU'RE THE MOST FAIR-FACED BOY AT SCHOOL, COLE...
... THE ON-LOOKERS WERE MANY.
BECAUSE YOU ALLOWED YOUR TONGUE TO SLIP ON PURPOSE.
NO. TO CALL IT A MISTAKE, A MERE SLIP OF THE TONGUE, IS ITSELF MISLEADING.

HUNH?
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE INCIDENTS INVOLVING FOUR OTHER STUDENTS, INCLUDING JOANNE HARCOURT?
HMPH. SUCH A FALSE ACCUSATION IS SERIOUS INDEED!
IN THAT CASE!
FOR A PREFECT'S FAG TO CUT DOWN THE WEAK AS YOU'VE DONE...
...GOES TO SHOW JUST HOW MUCH OF A SLY COWARD YOU ARE.
YOURS ARE THE ACTIONS OF AN OUTRIGHT LIAR!!
OF THE STUDENTS WHO WERE INVITED TO THE SWAN GAZEBO BY THE PREFECTS ...
...ALL THOSE WHO BROKE THEIR APPOINTMENT CLAIM IT WAS DUE TO COMMUNICATION TROUBLES WITH YOU.

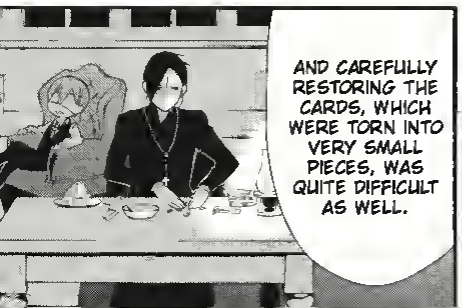
MOREOVER, YOU EVEN LEAVE YOUR DUTIES AS A PREFECT'S FAG TO OTHER STUDENTS.
HAAH?
WHAT-EVER CAN YOU MEAN?
COMPILING THE DATA REDMOND REQUESTED.
IRONING AND SHOE POLISHING.
EVEN THE PREPARING OF DISHES... YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANY OF IT YOURSELF!
YOUR COM-PETENCE IS AN UTTER SHAM!
HAH!
WHAT WILD FANCY.
HOW CAN YOU CLAIM ALL THAT WHEN YOU HAVEN'T ANY PROOF?
!?
AH, BUT I DO HAVE PROOF.
GOO GOO...

!!!
ドン
TH—
THAT'S —!!
DON (BAM)

IT'S ONE OF THE CARDS YOU EMPLOY WHEN COMMISSIONING YOUR HANGERS-ON TO DO YOUR WORK FOR YOU.
RECOGNISE THIS, DO YOU?
PI (FLICK)

THIS HERE IS A REQUEST FOR THE COMPILATION OF DATA.
THIS ONE IS FOR IRONING.
THIS ONE, SHOE SHINING.
THIS ONE, A REQUEST TO THE RED HOUSE COOK TO MAKE A SNACK!
EACH ONE IS QUITE CLEARLY WRITTEN IN YOUR HAND, DOWN TO THE DATE AND TIME.
SHALL I GO ON? I'VE GOT MANY MORE.
HOW COULD THEY, AFTER I MADE A POINT OF TELLING THEM TO GET RID OF THE CARDS ...?
OH, THEY DID JUST AS YOU ASKED AND DISPOSED OF THEM.
WHAT A RELIEF THAT THE REFUSE HADN'T YET BEEN COLLECTED!
SUCH TROUBLE IT WAS...

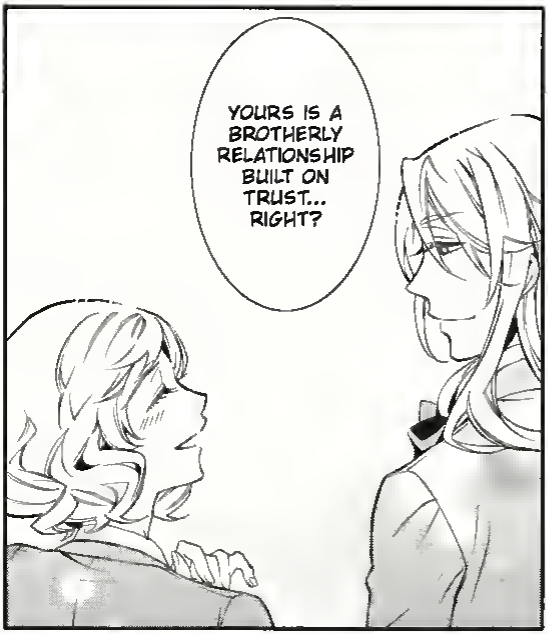
...UNEARTHING THESE TINY CARDS...
...FROM THE HEAP OF RUBBISH GATHERED FROM ALL OVER THE SCHOOL!


AND CAREFULLY RESTORING THE CARDS, WHICH WERE TORN INTO VERY SMALL PIECES, WAS QUITE DIFFICULT AS WELL.

WHA—!?

AS A STUDENT OF THE STORIED WESTON COLLEGE, AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELF, COLE!!?

WHAT WOULD REDMOND THINK IF HE WERE TO FIND OUT ABOUT ALL THIS?


YOURS IS A BROTHERLY RELATIONSHIP BUILT ON TRUST... RIGHT?

.....
I'M WILLING TO OVER-LOOK YOUR DECEPTION OF ME AND THE OTHERS.
BUT YOU SHOULD SPEAK PLAINLY TO REDMOND ABOUT THIS.

I'LL TELL HIM...
..... YES, YOU'RE RIGHT.

PACHIN (SNAP)
I'LL TELL HIM ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!
WHO IN THEIR RIGHT BLOODY MIND WOULD —!?
GA (GRAB)
!?
UWAH ...!
SHU (STRIKE)
YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY THINK I'D COME HERE UNPREPARED, DID YOU?
YOU'RE A FOOL!

EVIDENCE DESTROYED ~!
THERE WE GO!
YOU'RE GETTING UPPITY SIMPLY BECAUSE THE SENIORS HAVE TAKEN A PASSING FANCY TO YOU.
YOU IRRITATE ME!! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!?
GUI CYANKO
AFTER YOU WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE TO FIND IT TOO... WHAT A PITYYY!
.....
I, THE MOST ATTRACTIVE BOY IN THIS SCHOOL —!!
AND I AM PARTICULARLY TALENTED AT MAKING GOOD USE OF THE PLAIN STUDENTS!
MAKING USE OF OTHER PEOPLE IS A TALENT TOO, YOU KNOW!?

SOMEONE LIKE YOU, A WINNER WITH A TITLE...
...CAN NEVER UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF A SECOND SON, WHO WILL NEVER BE IN A POSITION TO INHERIT, CAN YOU?
WHETHER OR NOT I BECOME A PREFECT AT THIS SCHOOL CAN MAKE OR BREAK MY FUTURE.
THAT'S WHY I'VE FLATTERED AND FAWNED OVER THE PREFECTS TO WITHIN AN INCH OF MY LIFE!
I WILL BE THE NEXT PREFECT OF RED HOUSE!!
AND I WILL BE THE ONE REDMOND LOVES BEST!!
I DON'T BELIEVE THERE'S ANY VALUE IN A VICTORY OBTAINED BY DECEIT!
...MAKES ME SICK!!
(WHIP?)
YOUR GOOD BOY ACT...

WHAT ARE YOU —!?
!!
BG (KICK)
KAH-HAH ...!
!
GASHON (CLUNK)
YOU REALLY ARE A FOOL FOR PICKING A DESERTED PLACE LIKE THIIIS!
KOFFI
KOFFI
NO ONE WILL COME TO YOUR RESCUE, YOU KNOW?
AND I AM THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ONE HERE IN THIS SCHOOL!!
BIII (RIIIP)

NOW, THEN! TIME TO TAKE SOME PHOTO-GRAAAPHS!
IKU (TWITCH)
TSUU (STROKE)
THE KIND THAT'S SO EMBARRASSING YOU'LL WANT TO DIIIIE!!
ALL RIGHT.
DO IT! ♡
GWI-AP?
Augh ...!
Nn!!
P—
PLEASE STOPPP!!!

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS, YOU LOT !!!?
BAAN (SLAM)

!?
ZAN (THWAK)
...COLE!
YOU'RE GOING TO PAY DEARLY FOR FORCING ME TO BREAK MY VOW OF NON-VIOLENCE...
HENA (LIMP)
HENA
AH.
AAAH
DO
DO (THUD)

P-PLEASE, I BEG YOU, GREENHILL!! PLEASE DON'T TELL REDMOND...
DO YOU NOT WANT US TO KEEP SILENT AS WELL?
BLUEWER!
VIOLET!?
WH-WHY ARE YOU HERE!?

UPON HEARING THE ABLE AND TALENTED MAURICE COLE'S VIOLENT ACT...
...IT WOULD BE ODD INDEED FOR THEM TO NOT HASTEN HERE.
BUT THE SWAN GAZEBO IS WELL AWAY FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING.
THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HEAR M—
COLE.
SOUND IS NOT TRANSMITTED BY ITS "AMPLITUDE," BUT...
...BY "VIBRATION."
!?

SFX: KATA (CLACK)
FOR EXAMPLE ...
FOR EXAMPLE, IF THIN, PLANK- OR SHEET-LIKE OBJECTS ARE CONNECTED BY TAUT STRINGS THAT ALLOW VIBRATIONS TO BE CONVEYED WITH EASE, THEY CAN BECOME DEVICES THAT TRANSMIT SOUND TO A DISTANT LOCATION.
(HELLO.)
(HELLO.)
AS LONG AS THE VIBRATIONS CAN BE TRANSMITTED, SOUND CAN TRAVEL OVER ANY DISTANCE IN THEORY.
NO.
...LIKE SO.
KUWU (FWIP)
NOOOOO!!!
NO!!
NO!
NO.

I'VE HEARD EVERY LAST WORD.

...mond...
Re...d...
I don't want to hear your excuses.
N—NO—
I AM ASHAMED FOR BEING SUCH A POOR JUDGE OF CHARACTER.
TO THINK EVEN YOU BETRAYED ME...
COLE.
YOU ARE A GREAT DISAP-POINT-MENT TO ME.
I HEREBY SEVER MY BROTHERLY TIES TO YOU!

AAAAAA
UWAAAA
.....
U...uu!
COLE.
IF YOU FACE EVERYONE WITH HONESTY FROM NOW ON, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REGAIN THEIR TRUST.
PHAN-TOM-HIVE...
AND TO HELP YOU WITH THAT...

...I MADE CERTAIN TO SHARE YOUR "TRUE FACE" WITH EVERYONE, COLE.
FWASH (FLUTTER)

YOUR SKILL WITH MAKEUP IS THE REAL THING.
YOU CAN TAKE PRIDE IN YOURSELF, I THINK.
!!!
!!!?
CIEL.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
I'M SORRY FOR FALSELY ACCUSING YOU!

WHATEVER THE REASON, I WAS INDEED LATE.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO APOLOGISE, EDWARD.
I MUST SAY... I HONESTLY DIDN'T TAKE YOU FOR SUCH A MAN OF ACTION...
NO WONDER MIDFORD ACKNOWLEDGES YOU.
YOU'RE... REALLY QUITE ENTERTAINING.
WAH!
KUSHA (RUFFLE)
YOUR DEEDS WERE BRAVE, PHANTOMHIVE.
HE'S SMILING...
WELL DONE.
THERE'S A GOOD LAD.
TH-THANK YOU!
WHEN I DISCOVERED THERE WERE OTHERS BESIDES ME WHO HAD SUFFERED AT COLE'S HANDS, I JUST COULDN'T LET IT GO...

I'VE NEVER BEEN ONE TO CONDONE SUCH WRONGDOING, YOU SEE.
HEEDING TRADITION. BEING WITHOUT DISHONESTY. REMAINING PURE AND NOBLE OF HEART.
THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A STUDENT OF WESTON!

……

Black Butler

CHAPTER 72

At midnight : The Butler, Lauding

I SHALL NEVER BETRAY.
I SHALL NEVER BE ARROGANT.
AND UNTIL THE DAY WE TAKE OUR LEAVE OF THIS SACRED SCHOOL...
...I SHALL BUILD A RELATIONSHIP THAT WILL ENNOBLE US BOTH.
THIS I SWEAR BY SAINT GEORGE.

I OFFER YOU THIS PLEDGE AND ASK THAT YOU BE MY FAG...
...CIEL PHANTOM-HIVE.
G'RAAN
GARAAN (CLANG)

I HUMBLY...

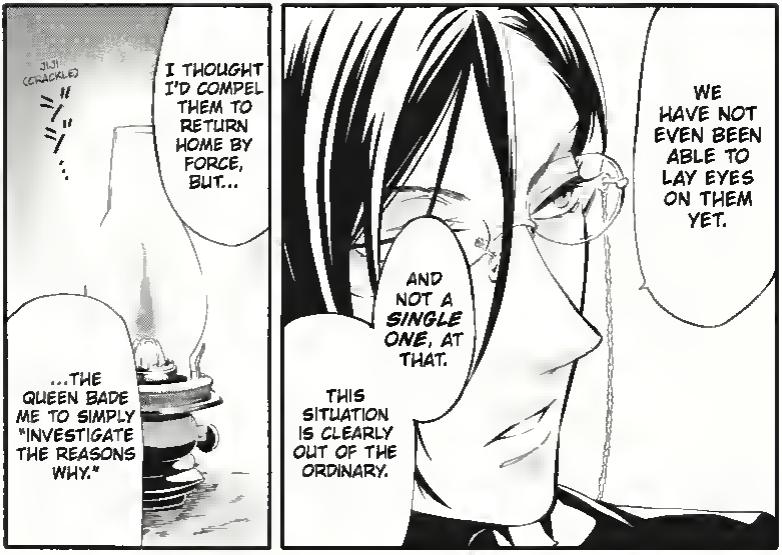
...ACCEPT.

AH!
HERE HE IS!!
CREAK
GWA (COLAMOUR)
CONGRATS!
YOU'RE INCREDIBLE! JUST INCREDIBLE PHANTOM HIVE!
WOW!
YOU'RE REALLY WEARING OUR DORM FLOWER!!
I ENVY YOU!!
TA...
WAI
WAI
WAI (NOISY)
HA... HA-HA...

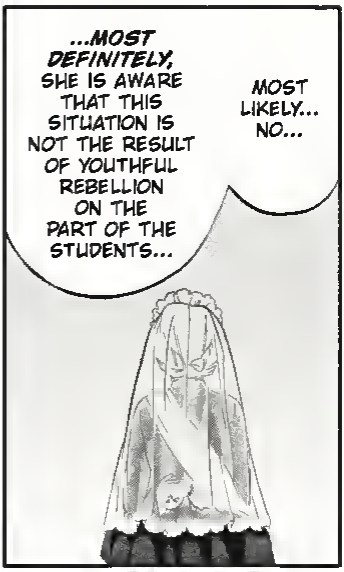
THAT'S...
LOOK! THAT'S THE FELLOW WHO JOINED UP WITH THE P4 RIGHT AFTER STARTING SCHOOL HERE.
WHOA. JUST LOOK AT ALL HIS ADMIRERS!
NN?
OH!
WAI (CHUCKLE)
GAYA (GIGGLE)
GAYA
I'M SO HAPPY YOU'VE MANAGED TO MAKE FRIENDS DESPITE YOUR DOURNESS ~!!
AH HA HA...
HA HA...
WHAT'S THIS, CIEL!? YOU'RE MIGHTY POPULAR, I SEE!
GACHA (CRACK)
GACHAGACHA
THE ONE WITH THE ELEPHANT!!
I FEEL LIKE I'VE BECOME AN OPERA SINGER OR SOMETHING...
HI (SIGH)
ハァ～
152

HEH HEH
YOUR MASTERFUL PERFOR-MANCES HERE HAVE BEEN QUITE SPLENDID OF LATE.
WHY NOT CONTINUE IN THIS FASHION AND AIM TO BE AN ACTOR INSTEAD?
IF YOU'RE IN THE MOOD TO MAKE CUTTING REMARKS, I'M READY FOR YOU.
FAR FROM IT! I WAS OFFERING YOU MY HEARTFELT PRAISE.
THAT'S EVEN WORSE !!
YOU ELIMINATED THAT PARASITE MAURICE AND GAINED THE POSITION YOU SOUGHT IN ONE FELL SWOOP.
I WOULD SAY THINGS ARE GOING VERY WELL, DO YOU NOT AGREE?
HEH!
HOWEVER, I'M STILL FAR OFF FROM MY ULTIMATE GOAL.

THE QUEEN'S ORDERS...
...WERE THAT I INVESTIGATE THE REASONS WHY A NUMBER OF STUDENTS, INCLUDING HER BLOOD RELATION DERRICK ARDEN, HAVE SHUT THEMSELVES UP IN THIS SCHOOL AND BROKEN OFF ALL CONTACT WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD...
—HOW-EVER...


JIJI (CRACKLE)
I THOUGHT I'D COMPEL THEM TO RETURN HOME BY FORCE, BUT...
...THE QUEEN BADE ME TO SIMPLY "INVESTIGATE THE REASONS WHY."
WE HAVE NOT EVEN BEEN ABLE TO LAY EYES ON THEM YET.
AND NOT A *SINGLE ONE*, AT THAT.
THIS SITUATION IS CLEARLY OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

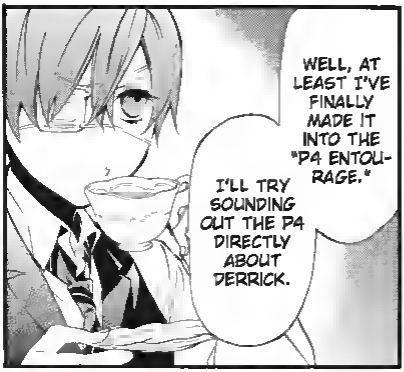
...THAT SOMETHING QUITE PECULIAR IS OCCURRING IN THIS SCHOOL!


MOST LIKELY... NO...
...MOST DEFINITELY, SHE IS AWARE THAT THIS SITUATION IS NOT THE RESULT OF YOUTHFUL REBELLION ON THE PART OF THE STUDENTS...

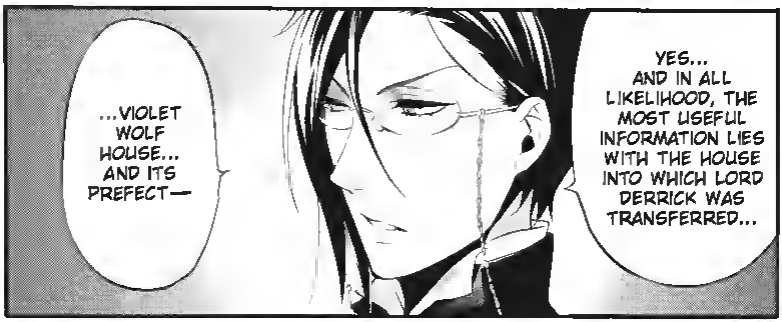
BUT IS THAT NOT WHY YOU ARE ATTEMPTING TO GET INTO THE GOOD GRACES OF THE PREFECTS, THE KEEPERS OF THE RULES, YOUNG MASTER?
AND BY EMPLOYING MUCH MORE PEACEABLE METHODS THAN USUAL AS WELL.

HOWEVER, THE SCHOOL IS ENSLAVED TO ITS OWN RULES...
...AND I CAN'T EVEN MAKE THE NECESSARY INQUIRIES.
IT'S LIKE I'M A PRISONER!

Midnight Tea Party
IN MY POSITION, I CAN'T TAKE PART IN THE "MIDNIGHT TEA PARTY" HOSTED BY THE HEADMASTER.
PREFECT
PREFECT'S FAG
TRUE... BUT I'M STILL ONLY THE FAG OF THE PREFECT'S FAG.
FAG OF THE PREFECT'S FAG


WELL, AT LEAST I'VE FINALLY MADE IT INTO THE "P4 ENTOURAGE."
I'LL TRY SOUNDING OUT THE P4 DIRECTLY ABOUT DERRICK.

I'D LIKE TO RETURN TO THE MANOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND TAKE A LEISURELY BATH.
IT WOULD SEEM YOU STILL HAVE A LONG ROAD AHEAD.
HOPE I HANG TO GO LAST AND MAKE A QUICK JOB OF IT BECAUSE BEATRIS HOARD OVER THE BATH


...VIOLET WOLF HOUSE... AND ITS PREFECT—
YES... AND IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, THE MOST USEFUL INFORMATION LIES WITH THE HOUSE INTO WHICH LORD DERRICK WAS TRANSFERRED...

VIOLET!

UNTIL MY PICTURE IS FINISHED.
SO DON'T MOVE, ALL RIGHT?
SO WHEN EXACTLY WILL YOU BE DONE!!?
Swan Gazebo

HOW LONG MUST I HOLD THIS POSE!?
NNN—
CRICKET BAT
IS THERE ANY MEANING TO THIS POSE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
PURU
PURU (TREMBLE)

NOTHING TO GET OUT OF SORTS ABOUT, GREENHILL! CONSIDER IT A KIND OF TRAINING!
HNNG-H ...!
HMPH! I COULD SAY THE SAME FOR YOU, RED HOUSE.
SO STANDING STILL ONCE IN A WHILE SHOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU.
EVERY YEAR, YOU CHAPS AT GREEN HOUSE START TO GET RESTLESS AS THE FOURTH OF JUNE NEARS.
ERM...IS SOMETHING HAPPENING ON THE FOURTH OF JUNE?
?
HAA (SIGH)
THE CLOSER WE GET TO THE FOURTH OF JUNE, THE MORE THE RESIDENTS OF ALL THE HOUSES LOSE THEIR COMPOSURE AND ALLOW THEIR GRADES TO SLIP...

4th June
IT IS A TRADITIONAL SCHOOL TOURNAMENT WITH A HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY BEHIND IT.
A CRICKET TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD, IN WHICH THE HOUSES FACE OFF AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

IT IS A MAGNIFICENT EVENT HELD BUT ONCE A YEAR, AFTER ALL.
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN EVEN OBSERVES THE VICTORIOUS HOUSE'S BOAT PARADE FROM WINDSOR CASTLE ON THE OPPOSITE BANK.
MAKE A POINT OF REMEMBERING OUR ANNUAL EVENTS AT LEAST.
E-EXCUSE ME.
I HAD NO INTENTION OF STAYING HERE FOR THIS LONG, ALL RIGHT?

HYAH HA!
ME, I CAN'T STAND THE SIGHT OF THE LOUSES FROM THE OTHER HOUSES, SO I'D LIKE TO BEAT 'EM BLACK AND BLUE!
GO!
WELL...
...I CAN'T SAY I'M THE LEAST BIT INTERESTED, THOUGH.
THE HOUSES OF OUR SCHOOL HAVE ALWAYS BEEN VERY COMPETITIVE.
THAT'S WHY THE ENTIRE SCHOOL FEELS LIKE IT'S ON EDGE AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR.
OHH.

SFX: KARI (SCRITCH) KARI KARI

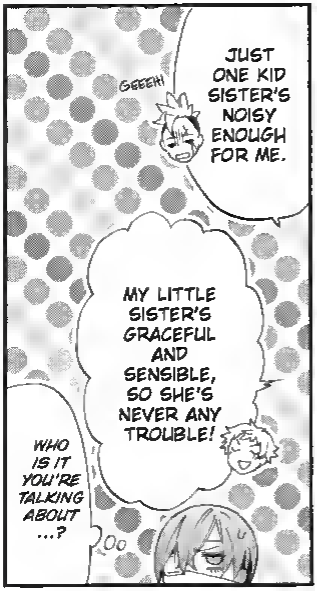
ON THESE DAYS ALONE, WE ARE ALLOWED TO INVITE OUR FAMILIES AND THOSE CLOSE TO US TO THE GREAT DINING HALL IN THE MAIN SCHOOL BUILDING.
EVENING CELEBRATIONS ARE HELD BOTH PRIOR TO AND AFTER THE TOURNAMENT.
BUT I EH!? THOUGHT OUTSIDERS WERE FORBIDDEN FROM ENTERING THE SCHOOL?

NNN.
I-I?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU ESCORTING A WOMAN, THOUGH, REDMOND.
ESCORT-ING A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IS ANOTHER WONDERFUL WAY TO FLAUNT ONE'S STATUS, YOU KNOW!
THE BAN ON WOMEN ON SCHOOL GROUNDS IS ALSO LIFTED ON THOSE DAYS!
HE'S MAKING GREENHILL HOLD THAT POSE, BUT HE HASN'T DRAWN HIM AT ALL!?
EH!?
NO, NOT QUITE.
A-ARE YOU DONE YET!?
GUGIGH (STRAIN)
I'M JUST NOT IN THE HABIT OF HAVING ANY ONE PARTICULAR PARTNER, THAT'S ALL!
BURU (SHAKE)
!?
BIKU (JOLT)

BLUEWER, YOU HAVE SEVERAL SISTERS, DO YOU NOT?
I MYSELF HAVE TWO ELDER SISTERS...
HOW MANY DO YOU HAVE ALTO-GETHER?

.....

LAWRENCE HERE MAKES THE ROUNDS WITH A FLOCK OF WOMEN EVERY YEAR.
THEY ARE NOT THE SORT OF WOMEN OF WHOM YOU SPEAK!!

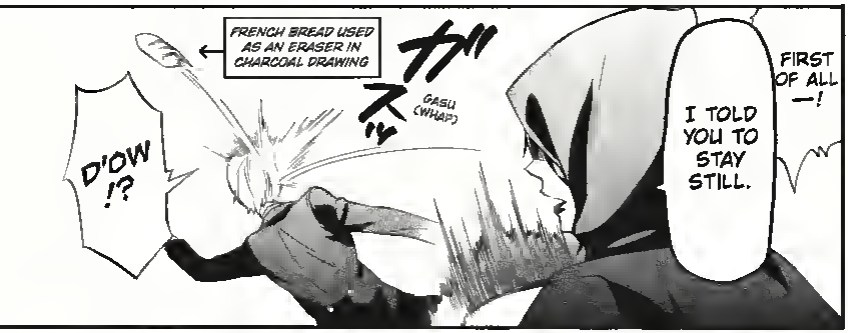

JUST ONE KID SISTER'S NOISY ENOUGH FOR ME.
GEEEH!
MY LITTLE SISTER'S GRACEFUL AND SENSIBLE, SO SHE'S NEVER ANY TROUBLE!
WHO IS IT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ...?

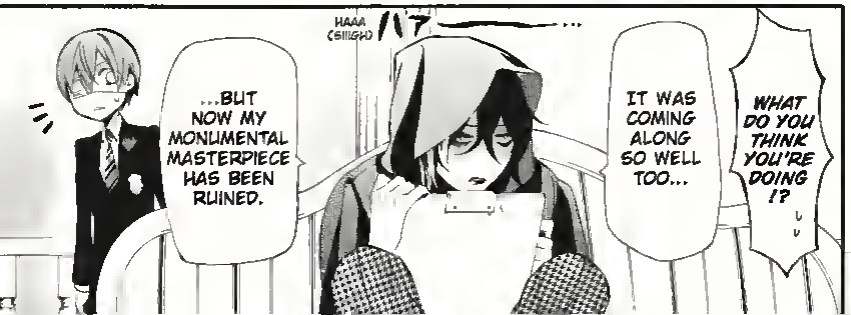
THREE ELDER SISTERS AND FOUR YOUNGER ONES.
ZO (SHIVER)
WOW...

BURU (SHAKE)
BURU
...THEY INSIST ON COMING...
BEFT!
IN TRUTH, I WOULD RATHER NOT INVITE THEM, BUT...
ROGO (MUTTER)
..This is... lacking...
VIOLET! I-I'M AT THE END OF MY ROPE HERE, SO...
I'M NEARLY DONE, SO KEEP STILL.
HE'S NOT DRAWING GREENHILL IN THIS PICTURE EITHER!!
GAKU (JERK)
COME TO THINK OF IT, MIDFORD'S YOUNGER SISTER IS YOUR FIANCÉE, RIGHT?
EH!?
SFX KARI (SKRITCH) KARI
ARE YOU GOING TO INVITE HER?
ER—
SHE'LL BE HERE FOR SURE!!
SHA (SWOOSH)
BUT SHE'LL DEFINITELY BE COMING TO CHEER FOR ME, HER BROTHER, NOT FOR THIS FELLOW!!

HUNH!?
R-R-R-R-RED-MOND!!?
YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST KISSED?
NIYAA (LEER)
にや
WELL? DO TELL. HOW FAR HAVE YOU GONE WITH HER?
KUSU (CHUCKLE)
くす
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING WHICH CHEERING SECTION LADY ELIZABETH CHOOSES.
DON'T BLOODY CRY!!
I YIELD!!
LIZZIE IS AN ANGEL. SHE'D NEVER DO SUCH THINGS!!!
DON'T YOU DARE INSULT MY SISTER, YOU KNAVE!!!
NO, ER...!
YOU'RE A LAD, SO I'M SURE THERE MUST'VE BEEN A LITTLE SOME-THING, RIGHT?
CHESLOOOOOOCK!
EXCLUSIVE SOCIETIES ARE THE SAME EVERY-WHERE.
HAAAH... RIDICU-LOUS...
GYAAAH!
WAAAH!
GYAAAH!

ZEEE (WHEEZE)
HAAA (PANT)
BOTH CELEBRATIONS ARE HELD SOLELY SO THAT THE ATHLETES CAN BUILD UP AND MAINTAIN THE STRENGTH TO COMPETE AGAINST ONE ANOTHER IN OUR TRADITIONAL CRICKET TOURNAMENT!!
THE GOAL IS NOT TO DANCE WITH WOMEN!!!
BISHI (SLAP)
DAAN (BANG)
YOU CHAPS ARE BEING TOO SLACK ABOUT THIS!!

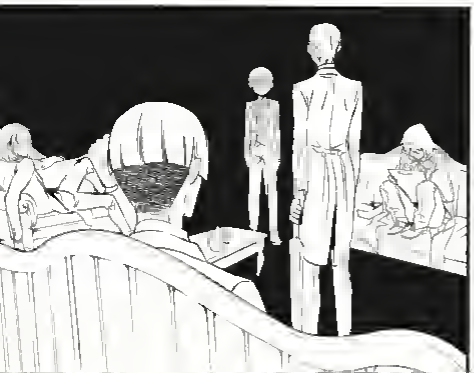

FRENCH BREAD USED AS AN ERASER IN CHARCOAL DRAWING
GASU (WHAP)
D'OW !?
I TOLD YOU TO STAY STILL.
FIRST OF ALL —!

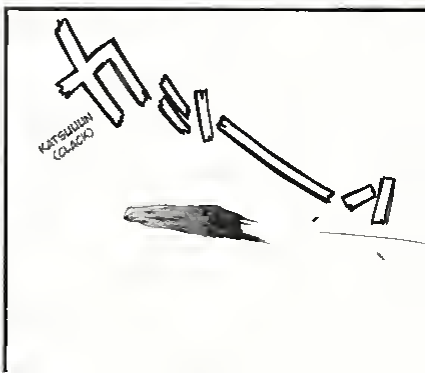

HAAA (SIIIGH)
...BUT NOW MY MONUMENTAL MASTERPIECE HAS BEEN RUINED.
IT WAS COMING ALONG SO WELL TOO...
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING !?

BUT HIS TALENT AT DRAWING QUALIFIES HIM AS A GENIUS... WHAT'S WITH THIS STRANGE FELLOW!?
IN THE END, HE DIDN'T EVEN DRAW HIS MODEL ONCE.
SHAAAAA...
HM... S-SORRY.
STRE
BAFT!
...BUT IN THIS SITUATION, I'VE GOT TO CONVERSE WITH HIM AND GET TO KNOW HIM BETTER.
ORDINARILY, I'D STEER CLEAR OF HIS ILK...
END OF CONVERSATION.
IS THAT SO
NO REPLY
NO
MUSHI (MUNCH)
IT MAKES ME DIZZY, SO I HATE IT.
D-DO YOU ENJOY DANCING AS WELL, VIOLET?

IT'S NO USE. I'LL HAVE TO CHANGE MY STRATEGY.
THIS MIGHT BE A LITTLE HEAVY-HANDED, BUT...
NOW I'M VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FOURTH OF JUNE TOO!
BUT I THINK IT MUST BE DIFFICULT TO COMPETE AGAINST RESIDENTS OF OTHER HOUSES WITH WHOM YOU'RE FRIENDLY.
ANYONE WHO FAILS TO FIGHT IN EARNEST AND SEEKS TO GO EASY ON YOU IS NO TRUE FRIEND OF YOURS!
THAT IS TRUE, BUT...
...I WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FIGHT AGAINST PHANTOMHIVE...
ME TOO, HARCOURT.
I HAVE A FRIEND IN PURPLE HOUSE TOO, SO I CAN'T HELP FEELING LIKE IT WILL BE HARD TO SQUARE OFF AGAINST HIM AS WELL.
THAT'S WHY YOU CAME BY OUR HOUSE BEFORE.
YES!
HIS NAME IS DERRICK ARDEN.

BAKI
SNAP




KATSUHIJIN
COLACO

EH...
DID YOU SAY... DERRICK ...?
GI
GI (SCRAPE)
GI
GI
GI
To be continued in Black Butler 16

Black Butler
黒執事

Downstairs

Wakana Haduki

7

Saito Torino

Tsuki Sorano

Hashimoto

Asakura

Chiaki Nagaoka

*

Takeshi Kuma

*

Yana Toboso

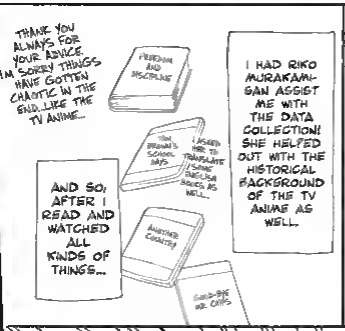
Adviser

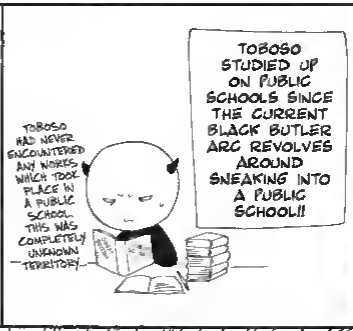
Rico Murakami

Special thanks for You!

SPECIAL

HELLO EVERYONE! TOBOSO HERE.


THANK YOU ALWAYS FOR YOUR ADVICE. I'M SORRY THINGS HAVE GOTTEN CHAOTIC IN THE END...LIKE THE TV ANIME...
FREEDOM AND DISCIPLINE
THE BRONTË'S SCHOOL DAYS
I ASKED HER TO TRANSLATE I SAINT GERMAIN BOOKS AS WELL...
ANOTHER CHARITY
GOOD-BYE MR. CHIPS
AND SO, AFTER I READ AND WATCHED ALL KINDS OF THINGS...
I HAD RIKO MURAKAMI-SAN ASSIST ME WITH THE DATA COLLECTION! SHE HELPED OUT WITH THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE TV ANIME AS WELL.


TOBOSO HAD NEVER ENCOUNTERED ANY WORKS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL. THIS WAS COMPLETELY UNKNOWN TERRITORY...
TOBOSO STUDIED UP ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SINCE THE CURRENT BLACK BUTLER ARC REVOLVES AROUND SNEAKING INTO A PUBLIC SCHOOL!!

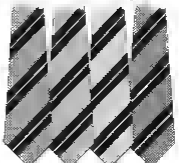
ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS REALLY ARE FANTASIES.
HOW ALOE!!!
TEACHERS REALLY DRESS LIKE THAT!?
THEY REALLY WEAR THOSE COAT-LIKE CLOTHES!
LOOK!
ENTER E, WHO WENT TO A BOARDING SCHOOL
PEOPLE WHOVE READ THOSE NOVELS GO WILD.
THE RULES AND FUNCTIONS OF THAT MAGIC SCHOOL REALLY EXIST!!
EH!?
I ALWAYS ASSUMED THAT COLOUR-CODING THE HOUSES WAS AN INVENTION!
LIKE COMPETING AMONG HOUSES AND SCHOOLS
THE WESTON COLLEGE UNIFORM GUIDE STARTS FROM THE FOLLOWING PAGE!
MURAKAMI-SAN
ウヒョオー
Whoo-hoo!!

UNIFORMS FOR ORDINARY STUDENTS

Hat

STUDENTS WEAR HATS TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

Tie



Blue Red Green Purple

COLOUR-CODED BY HOUSE

Back Style

MORNING COAT

Emblem

Amphisbaena

Centaur

Griffin

Wolf

EACH STUDENT'S HOUSE CREST IS EMBROIDERED.

Suit Material

Wool

Shoes

BLACK LEATHER SHOES

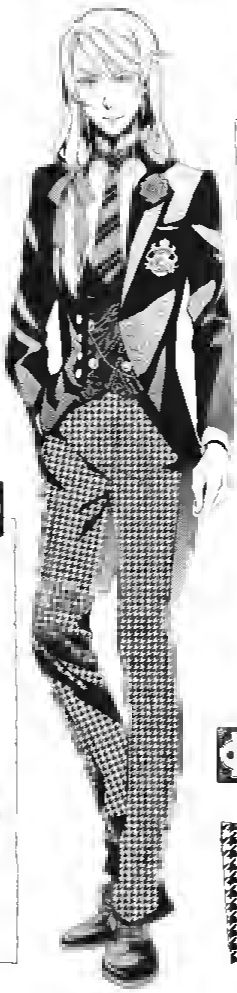
Hats & Coats

Letter

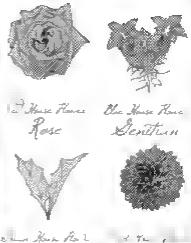
UNIFORMS FOR PREFECTS

Prefect

WHAT YOU CALL HOUSE CAPTAINS. THE HEADMASTER SELECTS FOUR PREFECTS, ONE FROM EACH HOUSE FROM AMONG THE SIXTH FORM RESIDENTS THERE. THE SELECTIONS ARE BASED ON EACH STUDENT'S SCHOOL RECORDS, PERSONALITY, AND BEHAVIOUR. THE HEADMASTER ENTRUSTS THE PREFECTS WITH THE SELF-GOVERNMENT OF THE SCHOOL. ORDINARY STUDENTS CALL THEM THE "PH" (SHORT FOR "PREFECT FOUR"). PREFECTS ARE THE STARS OF THE SCHOOL AND THE ENVY OF THE ORDINARY STUDENTS.

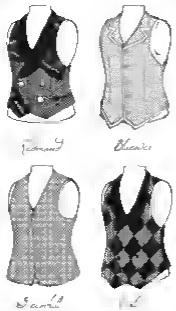


Buttonhole



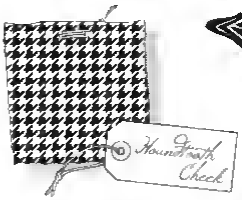
A PREFECT AND HIS FAG, AND THE FAG OF THAT PREFECT'S FAG, ARE ALLOWED TO WEAR THEIR HOUSE FLOWER IN THEIR BUTTONHOLES.

Waistcoat



PREFECTS CAN WEAR WAISTCOATS TAILORED WITH THE FABRIC OF THEIR CHOICE. ORDINARY STUDENTS ADMIRE THE COLOURED WAISTCOATS.

Slacks Material



SPORTSWEAR AND COLLEGE GOWNS
Suit Material
Cotton (White)
LOOSE COMPARED TO THE SCHOOL UNIFORM AND THUS EASY TO MOVE IN
Shoes
WHITE CANVAS SHOES
Line
Purple
Blue
Red
Green
COLOUR-CODED BY HOUSE
Back Style
A SOMEWHAT ROOMY HOOD
Lining
Green
Red
Purple
Blue
WORN IN RAINY OR COLD WEATHER

Translation Notes

Inside Back Covers

Tanaka Brian

A Japanese racehorse named Narita Brian was voted Japanese Horse of the Year in 1994.

96

96 can be read *ku-ro*, like the start of *Kuroshitsuji*, the Japanese title of *Black Butler*

Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

One of the most distinguished French thoroughbred horse races run annually at Longchamp

Page 4

Weston College

This illustrious learning establishment shares its name with an actual English college located in Weston-super-Mare in the southwest of England. The college was established in 1859 and attributes its earliest roots to art classes held by Henry Stacy in the historic Oriel Terrace building.

Page 8

Johann Agares

In demonology, Agares is a fallen angel and Great Duke who rules over the eastern regions of Hell. He is known as an expert linguist and is said to make humans dance

Page 16

Fagging

Fagging was a long-running, if controversial, tradition in British public schools that was prevalent until the late twentieth century. While proponents of the practice believed that it taught responsibility and discipline to lower boys, it also lead to bullying and abuse in some cases. To this day, vestiges of the practice can still be found in aspects of British public school life

Page 17

P4

The Prefect Four, and its acronym, bears a resemblance to the P4, or "Flower Four," a group of four elite boys who rule their private school in Yoko Kamio's classic shoujo manga, *Boys Over Flowers*

Page 43

Golden syrup pudding

Golden syrup pudding, or golden syrup sponge pudding as it is sometimes called, is a sticky English dessert that is often associated with school life and cold weather. It is a sponge cake, steamed in a pudding basin filled with golden syrup, which is a pale amber-coloured treacle (the uncrystallised syrup left behind when sugar is refined). When the pudding is turned out, it is often drizzled with additional golden syrup on top

Page 82

Lemon myrtle soufflé glacé

Soufflé glacé is a kind of French-style ice cream or frozen mousse made from a custard mixture that contains whipped egg and/or cream. The name derives from the dessert's appearance; it is frozen with a paper collar around the top, so that it resembles a soufflé risen out of its dish when served. Lemon myrtle is a flowering plant that has a culinary use as a replacement for lemon flavouring without the citric acidity of actual lemons

Page 85

Uva tea leaves

Uva is a region on the eastern slopes of the central mountains of Sri Lanka (formerly known as Ceylon) that produces black tea of very high quality that takes well to milk. The unique geography of the region yields tea leaves with low moisture content, which in turn produces full, but balanced, flavour.

Page 87

The Logic of Hegel

A book of the same title was published in 1874 by Scottish philosopher and Oxford tutor William Wallace. In it, Wallace translated German philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's *Encyclopaedia of the Philosophical Sciences in Outline*

Page 176

Freedom and Discipline

A book written by Kiyoshi Ikeda (a scholar of English Literature) that explains the British public school system based on his experiences attending the Leys School and the University of Cambridge

Yana Toboso

Author's note

When I began this series, I thought Great Britain was a magnificent and fantastic place, but now I feel it's actually pretty modest and conservative as a country.

That said, incredibly fantastic things do exist, and they continue to surprise me.

Both Sebastian's tutor outfit and Ciel's uniform actually exist; I've only slightly modified them. I find it wonderful that a school similar to that magic one currently exists, and students stride around leisurely in top hats and tails. I think it's about time I set foot in that country, don't you? And that's how I'm feeling with Volume 15.

Black Jockey
XV

I'VE LOST MY ENTIRE FORTUNE, I HAVE!!
THE DARK HORSE, TANAKA BRIAN, IS GONNA TAKE THE DERBY!
~THE MIRACLE OF THE FINAL THREE FURLONGS~
98

A Spartan, fleet-footed racehorse story, in which a jockey, whose background is shrouded in complete mystery, obtains his jockey's license on the first try without having ever set foot in a single training facility and wins (or not) the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on an old nag of a horse that has never won a single race——!

...or something.

BLACK BUTLER ⑮

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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